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THE WORKS

OF THE REVEREND

GEORGE WHITEFIELD, M.A.

Late of PEMBROKE-COLLEGE, OXFORD,
And Chaplain to the Rt. Hon. the Counteſs of HUNTINGDON.

CONTAINING

All his SERMONS and TRACTS
Which have been already publiſhed:

WITH

A SELECT COLLECTION of LETTERS,
Written to his moſt intimate Friends, and Perſons of Diſtinction, in *England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *America*, from the Year 1734, to 1770, including the whole Period of his Miniſtry.

ALSO

Some other PIECES on IMPORTANT SUBJECTS,
never before printed; prepared by Himſelf for the Preſs.

To which is prefixed,

An ACCOUNT of his LIFE,
Compiled from his Original PAPERS and LETTERS.

VOL. II.

LONDON:
Printed for EDWARD and CHARLES DILLY, in the Poultry;
and Meſſrs. KINCAID and BELL, at Edinburgh.
MDCCLXXI.

LETTERS.

LETTER CCCCXCVIII.

To the Reverend Mr. H———.

London, Dec. 23, 1742.

My dear brother H———,

I Thank you for your kind and very agreeable letter. It was refreſhing to my ſoul, and ſtirred me to give thanks on your behalf. I am ſurprized that you are not turned off, ſince you now ſo clearly preach the everlaſting goſpel. But our Saviour has the hearts of all men in his hands, and he turneth them when and whereſoever he pleaſeth. O my dear brother, I hope nothing will deter you from preaching the glad tidings of ſalvation to a world lying in the wicked one. I would not but be a poor deſpiſed miniſter of JESUS CHRIST for ten thouſand worlds. This I am perſuaded is the language of my dear friend's heart:

I.

For this let men revile my name,
No croſs I ſhun, I fear no ſhame:
All hail reproach, and welcome pain;
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

II.

The love of CHRIST *doth him conſtrain*
To ſeek the wand'ring ſouls of men;
With cries, entreaties, tears to ſave,
And ſnatch them from the gaping grave.

Go on, thou man of GOD; and may the LORD cauſe thy bow to abide in ſtrength! Glad ſhould I be to come and ſhoot ſome goſpel arrows in *Devonſhire*; but the cloud ſeems now to point toward *America*. My dear family calls loudly for me. Our LORD has wonderfully of late interpoſed on their behalf. GOD willing, I intend ſhortly to ſend you an account of the Orphan-houſe, and my laſt volume of ſermons, with ſome other things. Bleſſed be GOD for making any of my poor writings of uſe to your dear ſoul. Surely I had need proclaim free grace on the houſe-top; if I did not, the ſtones would cry out againſt me. O my dear brother, what a myſtery of love is the myſtery of godlineſs? Whilſt I am writing the fire kindles. This fire has alſo of late kindled in many hearts. Our large ſociety goes on well. We have many that walk in the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt. I hear of glorious things from various parts. I hope ere long we ſhall hear of perſons going from poſt to poſt, and crying, "Babylon is fallen, Babylon is fallen." I truſt you, my dear Sir, will be made a happy inſtrument in the Mediator's kingdom, of pulling down ſatan's ſtrongholds. Pray write me word, how the war is going on between *Michael* and the dragon. For the preſent, adieu. My tender love to all the lovers of JESUS CHRIST. Accept the ſame from, my dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER. CCCCXCIX.

To Mr. R———, in Edinburgh.

Dear Mr. R———, *London, Dec. 24, 1742.*

IT has given me ſome concern that I could not anſwer your kind and acceptable letter before. As our Saviour will give me freedom, I ſhall ſend you a few lines now. I think I may ſay to you, as *Luther* ſaid to *Melanchton*, *Nimis es nullus.* You are kept in bondage by a falſe humility. It is good to ſee ourſelves poor, and exceeding vile; but if that ſight and feeling prevent our looking up to, and exerting ourſelves for our dear Saviour, it becomes criminal, and robs the ſoul of much comfort. I can ſpeak this by dear-bought experience. How often have I been kept from ſpeaking and acting for GOD, by a ſight of my own unworthineſs; but now I ſee that the more

more unworthy I am, the more fit to work for JESUS, becauſe he will get much glory in working by ſuch mean inſtruments; and the more he has for given me, the more I ought to love and ſerve him. Fired with a ſenſe of his unſpeakable loving-kindneſs, I dare to go out and tell poor ſinners that a lamb was ſlain for them; and that he will have mercy on ſinners as ſuch, of whom indeed I am chief. I wiſh my dear friend was in this reſpect not almoſt, but altogether ſuch as I am. Well would it be with him, and happy would he then be. Upon the receipt of yours, I prayed the LORD to open your mouth. The language of my heart for you, myſelf, and all the Redeemer's witneſſes, is this;

Ah! LORD, enlarge their ſcanty thought,
To ſee the wonders thou haſt wrought;
Unlooſe the ſtammering tongue, to tell
Thy love immenſe, unſearchable.

I bleſs our LORD for giving you ſuch freedom with himſelf, though you cannot ſpeak ſo freely to others. Prayers wrought by his own ſpirit, he will hear and anſwer. It is moſt god-like to be frequent in interceſſion. It is the conſtant employment of the Son of GOD in heaven. I rejoice to hear the work of GOD goes on among you in *Scotland*. Bleſſed be GOD, it proſpers in our hands here, in *Wales*, and in various places. That it may proſper more and more, and be daily carried on in your precious ſoul, is the hearty prayer of, dear Mr. *R*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER D.

To Miſs S——, in Edinburgh.

Dear Miſs S——, *London, Dec.* 24, 1742.

CONTINUAL avocations about my maſter's buſineſs, has prevented my anſwering your kind letter. It gladdened my heart, becauſe it brought me the glad tidings of your being accepted in the beloved; and knowing that you are ſo, what does the LORD require of you now, but to walk humbly with him? Beg him to ſhew you more and more

of your evil heart, that you may ever remain a poor ſinner at the feet of the once crucified, but now exalted Lamb of GOD. There you will be happy. There you will find ſhelter from all your enemies. My prayer therefore for you, dear Miſs, is this :

Continue ſtill thy love, dear Lamb,
Safe hide her in thy wounds ;
There may ſhe dwell in all that love
The ranſom'd ſoul ſurrounds.

The comforts you have already experienced, as well as your trials, are but earneſts of what you will hereafter meet with in the ſpiritual life. But fear nothing, neither be over thoughtful for the morrow ; you have an all-gracious and almighty Saviour to guide and protect you. He will not leave you, until he hath lodged you ſafe in glory. There the wicked ſhall ceaſe from troubling, and your weary ſoul will enjoy an eternal reſt. Perhaps I may not ſee you again, till I meet you in the world of ſpirits. That grace and peace may be multiplied upon your dear ſoul, is the hearty prayer of, dear Miſs *S*——,

Your moſt affectionate friend
and ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DI.

To Mr. T——.

Dear Sir, *January* 9, 1743.

I Remember, when in *Scotland* laſt year, how heartily your good people joined in praiſe and thankſgiving, for the deliverance GOD had wrought out for the inhabitants of *Georgia* ; and I hope I ſhall never forget how liberally they contributed to the neceſſities of the orphans, though they knew not but at that time both orphans and Orphan-houſe were in the enemies hand. As this was an uncommon event, I ſend you herewith part of the proclamation for a day of thankſgiving to almighty GOD, for putting an end to this *Spaniſh Invaſion*. It runs thus :

Almighty

ALMIGHTY GOD has in all ages ſhewn his power and mercy, in the marvellous and gracious deliverance of his church, and in the protection of righteous and religious kings and ſtates, profeſſing his holy and eternal truth, from the open invaſion, wicked conſpiracies, and malicious practices of all the enemies thereof. He hath by the manifeſtation of his providence delivered us from the hands of the *Spaniards:* they, with forty ſail of ſmall gallies and other craft, came into *Cumberland* Sound; but ſuch a terror came upon them that they fled. With another fleet of thirty-ſix ſhips and veſſels they came into *Jekyl* Sound, and after a ſharp fight became maſters thereof; we having only four veſſels to oppoſe their force. We engaged them for the ſpace of four hours, and not one of us was killed, though many of the enemy periſhed, and five were killed by one ſhot only. They landed four thouſand five hundred men, according to the account of the priſoners, and even of *Engliſhmen*, who eſcaped from them. The firſt party marched up through the woods to this town, and was within ſight thereof, when GOD delivered them into our hands, though we were but few in number. They fought and were ſoon diſpers'd and fled. Another party which ſupported them, alſo fought; but were ſoon put to flight. We may truly ſay, the hand of the LORD fought for us; for in two attacks more than five hundred fled before fifty. At firſt they ſeemed to fight with courage; and the grenadiers particularly charged with great reſolution; but their ſhot did not take place, inſomuch that none of ours were killed; but they were broken and purſued with great ſlaughter, and by the report of the priſoners ſince taken, upwards of two hundred men never returned to their camp. They alſo came up with their half galleys towards the town, and returned without ſo much as firing one ſhot, leaving behind them ſome cannon, and many things they had taken. Twenty-eight ſail attacked *Fort-William*, in which were only fifty men. After three hours fight, they went away and left the province, and were purſued as far as Saint *John's*. So that by this whole expedition, no more than two of ours were taken and two killed. We may therefore truly ſay, the LORD hath done great things for us, who has delivered us out of the hands of the enemy.

Having taken the premiſſes into conſideration, I do hereby order, that *Sunday* the twenty-fifth inſtant be obſerved as a day of public thankſgiving to almighty GOD for his great deliverance, in having put an end to the *Spaniſh* Invaſion: and that all perſons do ſolemnize the ſame in a chriſtian and religious manner, and abſtain from drunkenneſs, and any other wicked and diſſolute teſtimonies of joy.

Given under my hand and ſeal, this twenty-fourth day of *July*, at *Frederica* in *Georgia*, *Anno Domini* one thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-two.

Signed by,

James Oglethorp.

By his excellency's command,

Francis Moore.

Buſineſs prevents my enlarging further at this time, and indeed I chuſe rather to leave you to make your own remarks on the incloſed. I only obſerve in general that as a tincture of piety runs through the whole, and all the glory given to him to whom all glory is due, it will be as acceptable to you as it was to,

Yours,

G. W.

LETTER DII.

To Mr. H——, at Glouceſter.

London, Feb. 4, 1743.

My very dear Mr. H——,

I BleſS GOD on your behalf. I thank him for viſiting your dear ſoul, and making you uſeful to others.—Aſſuredly the LORD has called you to your preſent work.—Abide in it. Go on and proſper. The LORD will be with you. If we have an aſſociation in *Wiltſhire* ſoon, will you chuſe to be with us? I expect ſhortly now to move hence; but my way is quite blocked up from going abroad. I will ſend you word, when I ſhall be at *Briſtol*. I will ſalute you and your friend with, "Come in, ye bleſſed of the LORD." I have juſt publiſhed a freſh account of the Orphan-houſe, and prefixed the plan. I ſhall be glad to hear from you often. Be

as

as particular in reſpect to the ſociety as you can. The LORD is ſtill with us. Bleſſed be his holy name! My tender love to all. That the glorious *Emmanuel* may be with your ſoul more and more, is the hearty prayer of, my dear Mr. *H*——,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DIII.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Sir, *Glouceſter, March* 24, 1743.

AN effectual door is opened in theſe parts. On *Saturday* night I preached here. The LORD was with me. On *Sunday* morning I preached again in a barn. It was a good time to me and the people. Dear Mr. *P*—— was here, and tears of love and joy were running down his aged cheeks almoſt all the while. He was, like good old *Simeon*, ready to cry out, "LORD, now letteſt thy ſervant depart in peace." At noon I preached at Mr. *F*——*r*'s on the hill, to a glorious auditory indeed. Here JESUS CHRIST diſplayed his power, and cauſed much of his glory to paſs before us. At four I preached again in a field near *Stroud*, where was a great congregation conſiſting of many, many thouſands. The LORD helped and bleſſed me much here alſo. Afterwards I went to the new houſe at *Hampton*, and the glory of the LORD filled it. It is exceeding commodious for our purpoſe. I preached in the court-yard on *Monday* noon, to a large auditory. *Monday* evening the LORD gave me a good time at *Pitchcomb*. Both brother *C*—— and brother *A*——'s ſociety met at *Hampton*, and the LORD met with us. Brother *C*—— is certainly called of GOD. All call him a ſecond *Bunyan*. I believe he muſt give himſelf wholly to the work. Such a hardy worker with his hands, and hearty preacher at the ſame time, I have ſcarce known. On *Tueſday* a man was hung in chains at *Hampton Common*.—A more miſerable ſpectacle I have not ſeen. I preached in the morning to a great auditory about a mile off the place of execution. I intended doing the ſame after the criminal was turned off; but the weather was very violent.—Thouſands and thouſands came and ſtaid to hear; but, through miſinformation, kept on the top of the hill, while

while I preached in the bottom. After this I came to *Glouceſter*, and preached in the evening in a barn: a night much to be remembered! This morning I preached again, and dined with Mr. *E — d I——s* and ſome more at Mr. *E——'s*. I am juſt going to my evening lecture, and to-morrow I ſhall leave *Glouceſter* for a few days. The aſſociation is put off for a week, ſo I ſhall have more time in *Glouceſterſhire*. Never did I ſee people more hungry and ſimple. Many come telling me what the LORD did for their ſouls when I was here laſt. To him be all the glory! Brother *A——* is now with me. He muſt be in the country 'till the houſe is more ſettled. I am ſure GOD called me here.

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DIV.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Sir, *Glouceſter, March* 29, 1743.

I Now ſit down to fulfil my promiſe made to you laſt night. —I think in a former letter I gave you an account of what the LORD had done for and by me ſince I left *London*, though indeed I cannot tell you the hundredth part. On *Tueſday* evening I preached at *Glouceſter* with as convincing, ſoul-edifying power, as ever I felt in my life. The barn, though made more commodious, was and is generally quite crouded. On *Friday* morning I preached again; and afterwards went to *Hampton*; the ſnow falling and freezing on us all the way. In the evening I preached at *Chalford*, upon "walking with GOD:" he was with me and the auditory. On *Saturday* I preached at *Ruſcom* in the morning, and at *King-ſtanley* in the afternoon. In the evening, I viſited brother *C——'s* gracious ſociety; and afterwards rode to *Hampton*, which made about twenty miles. The congregations on account of the weather were not ſo great, but our Saviour moſt richly fed us. The word diſtilled like the dew; and at *Stanley* I think I was in the very ſuburbs of heaven. O free grace! On *Sunday* morning I preached at *Durſley*, about ſeven miles from *Hampton*; where our dear brother *A———* had been taken down the *Sunday* before; but no one was permitted to touch or moleſt us. The congregation conſiſted of ſome thouſands, and the

word came with a moſt gloriouſly convincing power. I came away rejoicing, and in the afternoon preached to about ten thouſand on *Hampton* common, at what the people now call *Whitefield's Tump*, becauſe I preached there firſt. I cannot tell you what a ſolemn occaſion that was. I perceive a great alteration in the people ſince I was in theſe parts laſt. They did indeed hang on me to hear the word. It ran and was glorified. In the evening, we had a moſt precious meeting with the two united ſocieties in the new houſe at *Hampton*. Surely many thereabouts will walk with GOD. Laſt night and this morning I preached again with great power; preaching in *Glouceſterſhire* is now like preaching at the tabernacle at *London*. This evening I am to preach again; and after that to hold our firſt love-feaſt.—What our LORD does for us hereafter, you ſhall hear in my next. And now, my dear Sir, help me to be thankful, and bleſs the LORD for all his mercies conferred on

Your unworthy friend, and his worthleſs ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DV.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Glouceſter, April* 2, 1743.

MY ſoul is kept exceeding chearful; and greater and more continued freedom in preaching, I never experienced, than ſince I have been in *Glouceſter* and *Glouceſterſhire*. On *Tueſday* evening we had a bleſſed love-feaſt. On *Wedneſday* morning I preached here with great ſweetneſs; and at noon at *Painſwick*. — In the evening I preached at Mr. *F*——'s, in the place where the LORD met us remarkably one night about a twelvemonth ago. He met us again moſt delightfully, not in terror, but in love: by which I gueſſed how the goſpel had gained ground in a twelvemonth's time. After this I viſited dear brother *C*——'s ſociety, and then rode to *Hampton*, with brothers *A*—— and *G*——, praiſing and bleſſing GOD. On *Wedneſday* noon I preached at *Quarhouſe*, from the ſtump where old Mr. *Cole* uſed to ſtand. It was an alarming time. My ſoul enjoyed exceeding great liberty. In the evening I preached in the new houſe at *Hampton* to many

many hundreds, and afterwards met the society. Yesterday morning I came hither. At noon and at night I preached in the barn; it was quite crouded. It would have rejoiced you to have been with us. This morning I am to preach again, and shall take my leave at night. My dear Sir, help me to extol free grace, and expect to hear of greater things than these from,

Ever yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DVI.

To brother S———.

Waterford (South Wales,) April 7, 1743.

My Dear Brother,

ON *Monday* I received your letter of *April* 2; but till now, have had no opportunity of answering it. I preached and took my leave of the *Gloucester* people with mutual and great concern, on *Sunday* evening last. It was past one in the morning, before I could lay my weary body down.—At five I rose again, sick for want of rest; but I was enabled to get on horseback and ride to Mr. *F*——'s, where I preached to a large congregation, who came there at seven in the morning, hoping to feel the power of a risen LORD. They were not disappointed of their hope. At ten I read prayers, and preached from these words,—"I am the resurrection and the life," and afterwards was helped to administer the sacrament in *Stonehouse* church. Then I rode to *Stroud*, where I was enabled to preach to about twelve thousand, with uncommon freedom and power, in Mrs. *G*——'s field. Much of the divine presence was there.—About six in the evening I preached to about the like number on *Hampton Common*; but scarce ever with a more pleasing convincing power. The order and solemnity wherewith the people broke up, was very instructive. After this I went to *Hampton*, and held a general love-feast with the united societies. My soul was kept close to JESUS; my bodily strength renewed; and I went to-bed about midnight, very chearful and very happy. The next morning I went and preached near *Dursley*, to some thousands, with great convictions accompanying the word. About seven I reached

reached *Briſtol*, and preached with wonderful power to a full congregation at *Smith*'s *Hall*; and afterwards ſpent the evening very agreeably with Mr. *C*—— of *Bath*, and ſome other dear friends. On *Tueſday* morning I preached again to a full congregation, and then ſet out for this place, where we came about eight in the evening, and had ſweet and profitable converſation with Mr. *B*—— and ſome others of the brethren. We ſung an hymn, prayed, and parted in great harmony. On *Wedneſday* about noon I opened the aſſociation with a cloſe and ſolemn diſcourſe upon walking with GOD. Indeed much of GOD was with us. The brethren and the people felt much of the divine preſence. Afterwards we betook ourſelves to buſineſs: ſeveral matters of great importance were diſpatched. We broke up about ſeven, and met again about ten, and continued ſettling the affairs of the ſocieties till about two in the morning. On *Thurſday* we ſat again till about four in the afternoon; then, after taking a little refreſhment, and talking warmly of the things of GOD, I preached with great freedom upon the believer's reſt, and then we went on with our buſineſs, and finiſhed our aſſociation about midnight: all acknowledged that GOD had been with us, and bleſſed him for the ſame. Perhaps in a month I may come to *London*; but it ſeems to be the will of the LORD I ſhould ſtay in *Wales* about a fortnight, and take a tour into *Pembrokeſhire*. Great doors are open there. Our Saviour keeps me very happy indeed; and is, I believe, preparing greater bleſſings, for

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DVII.

To the Same.

Lantriſſant, (in Wales) April 10, 1743.

Dear Sir,

OUR bleſſed maſter ſtill countenances my feeble labours. Yeſterday I preached at *Cardiff* to a large congregation. The greateſt ſcoffers ſat quiet, and the children of GOD felt the divine preſence. In the evening I went to *Ful-mon*. Mrs. *I*—— received us kindly. GOD was pleaſed to ſpeak for me

in the ſociety where I preached. This morning I preached again. It was a moſt remarkable time. I have been juſt now preaching with great power here. Dear brother *H*—— is preaching in *Welch*. The people are very ſimple. I wrote to you from *Waterford*. I muſt write a letter or two more, and then away out of town. My kind and tender love to all. The LORD be with you.

I am yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DVIII.

To the Same.

My dear Friend, *Swanzey, April* 12, 1743.

I Hope all is well with you. Great things are doing in *Wales*. — An effectual door is opened for preaching the everlaſting goſpel. Yeſterday I preached at *Neath*, (ſeven miles from this place) from a balcony, to about three thouſand ſouls in the ſtreet. The LORD was with me of a truth. This morning I preached here to about four thouſand with great power. About one I preached at *Harbrook*, four miles off; and am now returned to preach here again.—Our Saviour has prepared the way before him. O free grace! Dear brother *H*—— has diſcourſed in *Welch* yeſterday and to day.

Ever yours,

G. W.

Poſtſcript. Paſt ſeven in the evening. I have juſt now done preaching. Swanzey is taken! I never preached with a more convincing power. Many of the rich and great were preſent. The congregation larger than in the morning. Free grace for ever!

LETTER DIX.

To the Same,

My dear Friend, *Larn, April* 15, 1743.

I Wrote to you from ſeveral places; and all my letters have, or will I truſt come to hand. I can yet ſend you more glad tidings. But words cannot expreſs what the LORD has done for your unworthy friend, and his own dear people's ſouls. On *Monday* I preached at a place in the way, and afterwards at *Neath*, a ſea port town, to about three thouſand people: all was quiet, and the power of JESUS was much there. Then I went to *Swanzey* ſeven miles from *Neath*. —On *Tueſday* I preached, and the LORD was with me. In the evening I went to *Llanelthy*, eight miles from *Swanzey*. There I preached twice on *Wedneſday* with great power to a large congregation; and in the evening near *Aberquilley*, five miles from thence. On *Thurſday* I preached at *Carmarthen*, one of the greateſt and moſt polite places in *Wales*; in the morning from the top of the croſs: in the evening from a table near it. It was the great ſeſſions. The juſtices deſired I would ſtay till they roſe, and they would come. Accordingly they did, and many thouſands more; and ſeveral people of quality. JESUS was much with me, and I hope much good work was done. Several ſent for me to their houſes. Dear brother *H*——— exhorts in every place. I have juſt been preaching, and it would rejoice your heart to ſee what is doing. I want room and time to tell you all. In about ten days I hope to be near *Briſtol*. In the mean while, I am, dear friend,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DX.

To the Same.

My dear Friend, *Haverfordweſt, April* 17, 1743.

SINCE I left *Larn*, from whence I wrote to you, the LORD has dealt moſt bountifully with me. I went that evening to *Narbatt*, where I preached to ſome thouſands with great power. On *Saturday* I preached at *Newton*, and afterwards

wards at *Jefferſon* to ſeveral thouſand ſouls, very like the *Kingſwood* colliers. This morning I preached at *Llaſſivran*, and had as it were a *Moor-fields* congregation; and this afternoon I preached to about the ſame number near this town. I alſo read prayers. Where I have been, the people call loudly again. A moſt effectual door is opened in *South Wales*. I hope to be with you in a few weeks. I am glad of ſuch news from *Georgia*. Bleſſed be GOD, he will take care of me and mine. Hearty love attends you and all, from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXI.

To the Same.

Carmarthen, April 20, 1743.

My dear Friend,

SINCE I wrote from *Haverfordweſt*, I preached yeſterday at eight in the morning to about eight thouſand people in this place, and in the afternoon to ſeveral thouſands at *Narbatt*, both times with great power. This morning I preached at *Larn*, and coming over in the ferry had the unexpected compliment paid me, of one ſhip firing ſeveral guns, and of ſome others hoiſting their flags. This afternoon I preached at a little town called *Kidwilly*, to a large congregation; and came this evening here. One of the miniſters preached much againſt me laſt *Sunday*, and mentioned me by name; but, like my other oppoſers (and like the viper biting the file) he only hurt himſelf. I am as it were in a new, but very unthought of pleaſant world. O how many thouſands within theſe few days have heard the word! I thought to ſee you next week; but as I am here, perhaps it may be beſt to go round now, and ſo be at *London* at Pentecoſt. In about a fortnight, therefore, you may expect to ſee me.

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXII.

To the Same.

Bhuadder, April 23, 1743.

My dear Friend,

I Wrote to you from *Haverford* and *Carmarthen*. I preached there twice on *Thurſday* to about ten thouſand people, and dear Mr. *R*—— preached after me. Yeſterday we had another bleſſed aſſociation; and have now ſettled all the counties in *Wales*. Our LORD was wonderfully with us. You cannot tell how delighted the brethren went away. Indeed they ſeemed filled as with new wine. Laſt night we came hither to a little inn. A ſweet retreat from the rain. I muſt away to preach this morning. Help me, my dear man, to be thankful. I kindly ſalute you and yours, and am,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DXIII.

To the Same.

Guenfithen, near the Hay in Radnorſhire, April 25, 1743.

My dear Sir,

I Wrote to you on *Saturday* morning; afterwards I preached at *Llangathan* in the church, to a great congregation; I then went about ten miles, and preached at *Landovery* in the evening, and on *Sunday* morning. GOD was with us each time. On *Sunday* evening I preached to a large and polite auditory at *Brecon*, fifteen miles from *Landovery*.—This morning I preached at *Trevecka*, and juſt now at this place, with as great freedom, power and melting, almoſt as we have ſeen. It is now paſt ſeven at night, and I have ſeven or eight *Welſh* miles to go. I am glad you are ſo happy in JESUS. My body is weak, but I am at the Redeemer's feet, and he reigns king in my heart, and cauſes me to rejoice and triumph over all. Help me to praiſe him. Brother *H*—— ſalutes you all. The LORD be with you.

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DXIV.

To the Same.

Glouceſter, April 29, 1743.

My dear Sir,

I Am at preſent ſtrengthening myſelf in the LORD my GOD. Theſe words have much refreſhed me, "And the LORD was with *David*, whitherſoever he went." After I wrote my laſt from a gentlewoman's near the *Hay*, I went towards *Builth*, and got into my lodgings about one, and into my bed about two o'clock in the morning. The next day I preached at *Builth*, with much of the Redeemer's preſence. Then I rode to the *Gore*, the laſt place I preached at in *Wales*; and indeed our Saviour kept the good wine 'till laſt: he made our cup to overflow.—Between eight and nine at night we ſet out for *Leominſter*, and reached there between two and three in the morning. At eleven, and three, I preached. It was quite fallow ground. The LORD broke it up, and gave me a bleſſed entrance into *Herefordſhire*. All glory be to his great Name! The ſame night I lay at *Hereford*. Even there ſome of our LORD's diſciples were to be found, as alſo at *Roſs*, where we baited yeſterday. In both places I might have preached, would time have permitted; but I was haſtening to *Glouceſter*, where the good Shepherd of *Iſrael* brought us in peace and ſafety about eight in the evening; after having in about three weeks travelled about four hundred *Engliſh* miles, ſpent three days in attending two aſſociations, preached about forty times, viſited about thirteen towns, and paſſed through ſeven counties. Here then will I ſet up my *Ebenezer*, thank the adorable JESUS for theſe and all other his mercies, and from the bottom of my heart give him all the glory. I know my deareſt friend will join with me, and ſay a hearty Amen. "Even ſo, LORD JESUS. Amen and Amen!"—— Laſt night and this morning I preached here. Since my departure the barn hath been turned into a commodious chapel. I ſhall preach there again, GOD willing, this evening, and to-morrow morning; in the country on *Sunday* next, and for all as I know, ſhall come to *London* on *Monday* evening. One

of

of the ſimple *Apperly* ſouls died in peace a few days ago. "Praiſe ye the LORD, for his mercy endureth for ever."

Yours, &c. &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXV.

To the Rev. Mr. I——.

My dear Brother, *London, May* 6, 1743.

YOUR very kind letter I had not the pleaſure of receiving 'till yeſterday. It was very acceptable, and knits my heart cloſer to you than ever. I love your honeſt ſoul, and long for that time, when the diſciples of CHRIST of different ſects ſhall be joined in far cloſer fellowſhip one with another. Our diviſions have grieved my heart. I heartily approve of the meeting of the chief labourers together. The free grace of the ever-bleſſed JESUS melts me down. He has been exceeding kind to me of late, and ſhewn me that, vile as I am, he will not lay me aſide. I am juſt returned from a circuit of about 400 miles. I have been as far as *Haverfordweſt*, and was enabled to preach with great power. Thouſands and tens of thouſands flocked to hear the word, and the ſouls of GOD's children were much refreſhed. I have been alſo at two aſſociations in *Wales*. The work begins now to ſhew itſelf. Many are taking root downward, and bearing fruit upward. Ere long I truſt they will fill the land. I am glad the LORD hath opened freſh doors for you, my dear brother. The rams horns are ſounding about *Jericho*; ſurely the towering walls will at length fall down. But we muſt have patience. He that believeth, doth not make haſte. The rams horns muſt go round ſeven times. Our diviſions in *England* have the worſt aſpect, while they are now united in *Wales*: but even this ſhall work for good, and cauſe the Redeemer's glory to ſhine more conſpicuous. This is my comfort; "The government is upon his ſhoulders," and he is a "wonderful counſellor."

And whatſo'er thou wilt,
Thou doſt, thou King of Kings!
What thy unerring wiſdom plans
Thy power to being brings.

But where am I running? Pardon me. I am writing to my dear Mr. *I*——. I rejoice in the expectation of seeing you in town. I hope to be in town at that time, and to enjoy some of our former happy seasons. In the mean while, I salute you from my inmost soul, and desire, as often as opportunity offers, a close correspondence may be kept up between you, and, my dear brother,

Your most affectionate unworthy
brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER DXVI.

To D. T——, in Yorkshire.

London, May 6, 1743.

My dear Brother,

A Day or two ago, I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you, which I find was written some time since, but came not to hand, as I was out of town. Accept my thanks, though late, and let the blessed JESUS be praised, again and again, for causing his children to love and esteem unworthy, hell-deserving me. O, my dear brother, "Love is of GOD, and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in GOD, and GOD in him." Glad am I that our Saviour is getting himself the victory in your parts, and that fresh doors are opened for our dear brother *I*—— to preach the everlasting gospel. I have been just writing to him; and now improve a few moments to send you a line also. Blessed be our glorious *Emmanuel*, I can tell you of new and glorious conquests made of late. I am but just returned from a circuit of 400 miles in *Gloucestershire* and *South Wales*. *Dagon* hath every where fallen before the ark, and the fields are white ready unto harvest. The congregations were very large, and I was never enabled to preach with greater power. I purpose staying here about a month, and once more to attack the prince of darkness in *Moor-fields*, when the holidays come. Many precious souls have been captivated with CHRIST's love in that wicked place. *Jerusalem* sinners bring most glory to the Redeemer. Where I shall go next, I cannot yet tell. If my Master should point out the way, a visit to *Yorkshire* would be very agreeable.

agreeable. Perhaps *Exeter* and *Cornwall* may be the next places. That is dry ground. I love to range in such places. O my dear brother, continue to pray for me, and help me to praise the blessed Lamb of GOD. Indeed I pray for you, and the redeemed sinners, amongst whom you are. That the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls may fill you with all peace and joy in believing, is the hearty prayer of, my dear brother,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST.

G. W.

LETTER DXVII.

To Mr. H——.

London, May 21, 1743.

My very dear faithful Friend and Brother,

AFTER watching, and praying, and striving some days for direction and assistance, I now sit down to write you a letter; though I know not well what to say or do. The concern I have felt for you, and my dear family, has had an effect on my body, and increased that weakness, which the season of the year, my constant labours, and continual care upon various accounts, have brought upon me. In the midst of all, my soul I trust grows, and is kept happy in the blessed JESUS. His strength is daily made perfect in my weakness, and I am made more than conqueror through his love. I am somewhat concerned, that scarce any of my letters have reached your hands. I was glad, however, to find that you had received one dated in *May* last. Since that, I hope you have received more. I rejoice that our loving Saviour has not permitted you to want. You are his family, and he would not detain me from you, had not he determined to provide for you in my absence. I fear I have been sinfully impatient to come over. I think, I could be sold a slave to serve at the gallies, rather than you and my dear Orphan-family should want. Sometimes my wicked heart has said, "if I know I should have staid so long, I would not have come over to *England* at all." But GOD's thoughts are not as our thoughts. It is best to be kept at his feet, waiting to know what he would have us to do. By and by we shall know all;

'till then, let us wait patiently; againſt hope may we believe in hope, and being ſtrong in faith give glory to GOD. After I have fought the LORD's battles in *Moor-fields* theſe holidays, I think to take a tour into *Cornwall* and *Wales*, and perhaps, to *Ireland*. I have ſometimes thought I am detained on purpoſe to go there. I wonder not at your ſilence. You may well expect me; but I muſt not mention it, leſt my impatient heart ſhould again ſay, "LORD, why wilt thou not let me go?" My firſt fellow-traveller, ſcarce a day paſſes without my ſpeaking of, and often praying for you. Old love has revived long ſince in my ſoul. I am perſuaded, our LORD will reward you even in this life, for your fidelity to unworthy me. "Be ſtrong in the LORD and in the power of his might." While I am writing the fire kindles, and I almoſt forget my bodily weakneſs. The LORD be with you. I hear the *Spaniards* intend a ſecond invaſion; but thoſe words ſtill follow and comfort me, "The enemies which you have ſeen, you ſhall ſee no more for ever." You are the LORD's family; he will take care of you; fear them not. I have many things to impart, when I ſee you face to face. 'Till then the LORD JESUS be with your ſpirit, and grant that you and yours may increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. In bonds of an eternal friendſhip, with greater affection than words can well expreſs, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DXVIII.

To Mr. B——. Barber

London, May 21, 1743.

My very dear Brother B——,

LITTLE did I think, when I parted from you at *Betheſda*, that I ſhould be writing to you at this time in *London*. But GOD's ways are in the great waters, and his footſteps are not known. I have eſſayed to come to you more than once, or twice; but I believe I can ſay, "the ſpirit ſuffered me not." In thought I am with you daily; when I ſhall come in perſon, our Saviour only knows: perhaps, at an hour which neither you nor I think of. You will ſee what I have wrote (though

(though in much weakneſs) to my dear Mr. *H*——. The preſent weakneſs of my body will not ſuffer me to enlarge much to you; though, was I to follow the inclination of my ſoul, I ſhould fill up many ſheets. My dear brother, I love you unfeignedly in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and heartily thank you for all your works of faith, and the care you have taken of my dear family. Surely our LORD ſent you to *Bethesda*, and however cloudy the proſpect may have been for ſome time, I am perſuaded a glorious ſunſhine will ſucceed, and you ſhall yet ſee the ſalvation of our GOD. When our LORD has any thing great to do, he is generally a great while bringing it about, and many unaccountable dark providences generally intervene. Thus it was with *Abraham*, *Jacob*, *Joſeph*, *Moſes*, and all the eminent men of GOD in the days of old. Thus our LORD is pleaſed to deal with me, and my affairs. Many precious promiſes have been given me in reſpect to myſelf, my dear family, and the church of JESUS CHRIST, which I am ſure will be fulfilled in due time. I long to be with you, to open our hearts freely, and to tell one another what our good GOD has done for our ſouls. Great things has he done for me indeed, and greater things is he yet doing, and about to do. The work of GOD is likely to ſpread far and near, and ſuch are daily added to the church as ſhall be ſaved. I am employed every moment for the beſt of Maſters, and only lament that I can do no more. For ſome days, my body has been much indiſpoſed, but not ſo as to prevent my preaching. As my day is, ſo is my ſtrength; and as afflictions abound, conſolations much more abound. I know that this will lead you to give thanks on my behalf. I am glad when I hear it goes well with you and yours. I am now like St. *Paul*, who could have no reſt, 'till he ſent a brother to the church, that he might enquire of their affairs, and know how they did. The perſon that brings this, loves JESUS in ſincerity, and I truſt will be a bleſſing to the houſe. I would have him employed among the children, or as you and the brethren ſhall think fit. Our Saviour, I hope, will direct you in every thing. As ſtrength ſhall permit, I intend writing to Mr. *J*——. Bleſſed be GOD for raiſing up ſuch dear friends. He never can or will forſake thoſe that put their truſt in him. I hope it is well with you and yours. I doubt not but your ſouls

prosper. Mr. *A*—— writes to his mother, and tells her how you are instant in season and out of season. Go on, my dear brother, thou man of GOD! and may the LORD make you a spiritual father to thousands. That the LORD of all lords may exceedingly bless you, is the earnest prayer of

Yours most affectionately in JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DXIX.

To Mr. H——.

London, May 31, 1743.

My dear Mr. H——, *Friend and Brother*,

ALL last week, do what I would, I could not find freedom to write a line, though I expected our dear brother *E*——, the bearer of this, to sail every hour. But now I know why he was detained, and I restrained. This morning, to my unspeakable satisfaction, I saw a letter from our dear brother *G*——, dated *April* 13th, wherein he acquainted me of the welfare of the dear family, and of another out-pouring of the spirit among you. O! my soul does magnify the LORD, and my spirit rejoices in GOD my Saviour. After this, I expect to hear of another shock: but I know you are the LORD's, and he will take care of your souls. As Mr. *E*—— is going on board, I have not time to say half I would. I fear I am sinfully impatient to see you. The time will come by and by. Hasten it, O LORD, if it be thy blessed will! Our Saviour does greater things for me every day. Last *Sunday* morning, I collected 23*l.* for the orphans in *Moor-fields*. It would amaze you to see the great congregations, and wonderful presence of the LORD. Grace! grace! I have paid all that is due in *England*, and have sent you 25*l.* by the bearer. GOD willing, I shall remit you more soon. Pray give my humble respects to dear Mr. *J*——, and tell him, our Saviour will enable me to pay him all soon with a thousand thanks. I sent you 100*l.* by my brother's ship, and a packet of letters. I hope they came safe to hand. But I must have done. Salute my dear family, and believe me to be, though now in great haste, dear man,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXX.

To Mr. G——, of Carliſle.

London, June 9, 1743.

My dear Brother,

I Have been prevented by many things from writing to you. I now redeem a few minutes to ſend you a line. I believe your way is clear to *London*. The brethren, I am perſuaded, will be willing to give you the right-hand of fellowſhip, ſince you are determined not to meddle with controverſy, or to make *adult baptiſm* a bone of contention; but ſimply to preach JESUS CHRIST and him crucified. This I think is the only way to propagate the goſpel of the grace of GOD. Our Saviour bleſſes me in it much, and owns and ſtrengthens me more and more. I have been very weak in body, but every day my ſtrength hath been renewed, and I have been enabled to mount on wings like an eagle. God willing, I ſhall leave *London* on *Monday* next. If I ſhould be out of town, you will be kindly received. Glory be to GOD, the goſpel ſpreads. I feel myſelf the chief of ſinners. As ſuch, be pleaſed always to remember to pray for, my dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DXXI.

To Mr. S——.

Burford, June 15, 1743.

My dear Sir,

I Cannot go any farther without writing you a line. Our Saviour hath dealt moſt graciouſly with your unworthy friend. On *Monday* I experienced ſome ſweet teachings from above, and was ſo happy, that I thought our LORD was preparing me for ſome freſh trials. The proſpect pleaſed me much, knowing how all things had already worked together for my good. Yeſterday my body was very weary, but my ſoul happy, and I preached at *Fairford*; this morning at *Glanfield*, and juſt now here. It is dry ground; but the LORD has promiſed to pour water upon ſuch. He has richly watered my ſoul. Where I lay,

I lay, was indeed a Bethel, a gate of heaven. I hope GOD has been with you. My tender love to dear brother *A——s*. My fellow-travellers salute you. My love to the Tabernacle people. Their prayers are heard. Grace! grace!

Yours affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DXXII.

To the same.

Gloucester, June 18, 1743.

My dear Friend,

I Wrote to you from *Burford* on *Wednesday* last. My soul was then so exceeding happy, that I want words to express it. Afterwards, we went to *Bengeworth*, where we came about midnight, and were most heartily received by Mr. *S——* and Mr. *O——*. I was enabled to preach there with such power, that all must confess, GOD was with us of a truth. We dined very comfortably, and then set out for *Gloucester*, shouting, Grace! grace! When I arrived, our Saviour was exceeding gracious; and I had so much of heaven in my soul, that I wanted to lie down any where to praise my GOD. I preached here early the next morning, then rode to *Cheltenham*, and returned hither in the afternoon, and preached in the evening. This morning I preached again, and received your second welcome letter. I thank you for it. I could write much of the love and abiding happiness I have in CHRIST: but I have many letters lying unanswered before me. Adieu at present. The LORD be with you and yours. Salute all the brethren. Forget not to pray for, my dear friend,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DXXIII.

To the same.

Gloucester, June 21, 1743.

ON *Saturday* I answered your two last letters. Our Saviour sent me to *Gloucester* for wise ends. Much substantial good has been done to several of the society. My mouth

and

and heart were greatly opened in preaching. *Saturday* evening was a time much to be remembered. *Sunday*, was a great day of the Son of Man. I preached at *Glouceſter* in the morning, and near *Stroud* in the evening. The word was clothed with much power, both for ſinners and ſaints. I think the congregation at *Hampton* was rather greater than ever. At night we had a precious meeting in *Hampton-houſe* garden; the houſe itſelf being too ſmall to hold the people without almoſt ſtifling them. The ſimplicity, ſweetneſs, and broken-heartedneſs of the poor ſouls would have melted your heart. Indeed, much grace was upon them, and many, I believe, to their unſpeakable conſolation, heard the voice of the LORD GOD in the trees of the garden in the cool of the day. On *Monday* morning I preached again, and came away rejoicing. Whilſt I was at *Hampton*, *J. C*—— told me, how he and the people had been abuſed. My coming at this time, I believe, has much ſtrengthened the perſecuted. Indeed there is a glorious work in *Glouceſterſhire*. Brother *C*—— is truly a great ſoul! one of the weak things that GOD has choſen to confound the ſtrong. In my journey from *Hampton* hither, our dear Maſter was graciouſly with us. We have bleſſed news from *Scotland*. Brave news alſo from *Pembrokeſhire*. Surely the kingdom of the LORD and his CHRIST is coming on apace. I know you ſay, "Come, LORD JESUS, come quickly."

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

P. S. I muſt acquaint you, by way of poſtſcript, of the following anecdote of the old Mr. *Cole*, a moſt venerable diſſenting miniſter; whom I was always taught to ridicule, and (with ſhame I write it) uſed, when a boy, to run into his meeting-houſe, and cry, *Old Cole! old Cole! old Cole!* Being aſked once by one of his congregation, what buſineſs I would be of? I ſaid, "a miniſter, but I would take care never to tell ſtories in the pulpit, like the old *Cole*." About twelve years afterwards, the old man heard me preach in one of the churches at *Glouceſter*; and on my telling ſome ſtory to illuſtrate the ſubject I was upon, having been informed what I had before ſaid, made this remark to one of his elders, "I find that young *Whitefield* can now tell ſtories, as well as old *Cole*." Being affected

fected much with my preaching, he was as it were become young again, and used to say, when coming to and returning from *Barn*, "These are days of the Son of Man indeed!" nay, he was so animated, and so humbled, that he used to subscribe himself *my Curate*, and went about preaching after me in the country, from place to place. But one evening, whilst preaching, he was struck with death, and then asked for a chair to lean on 'till he concluded his sermon, when he was carried up stairs and died. O blessed GOD! if it be thy holy will, may my exit be like his!

LETTER DXXIV.

To the same.

Gloucester, June 27, 1743.

FULL of divine consolations, and at the same time, I trust, deeply sensible of my own vileness, I have just arose from the throne of grace, where I have been laying yours, my own, and the affairs of the whole church, before our common Father and our GOD. He was pleased to give me sweet access, and to assure me, that if he gave me his presence, he would freely give me all things; but I must wait his time and season, because that will be better for me. I have therefore just now put my soul, as a blank, into the hands of JESUS CHRIST my Redeemer, and desired him to write upon it what he pleases. I know it will be his own image. Methinks I hear you say, Amen. I know you do from your heart; for I believe you love me in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, as I do you, GOD knoweth. Our Saviour, by his wise providence has prevented our receiving each others letters so soon as we expected. I preached *Tuesday* last in the evening at *Bristol*, and on *Wednesday* twice; and once at *Kingswood*.—On *Thursday* in the morning I preached there also, and afterwards went to *Bath*, where I was most cordially received by Mr. *C*——, and one Dr. *H*———, a christian physician, and Lady *C*——. Here our Saviour gave me fresh hints, that if I would stand still and wait his time and way, he would make even my enemies to be at peace with me. I returned in the evening to *Bristol*, and preached. I think it was this day the news came of his Majesty's fighting, and coming off conqueror. I had observed for some

ſome time paſt, when praying for him, whether I would or not, out came this petition, "LORD, cover thou his head in the day of battle." Tho' even while I was praying, I wondered why I prayed ſo, not knowing that he was gone to *Germany* to fight. This gave me freſh confidence towards GOD. I ſpent almoſt the whole day on *Friday* in retirement, and prayer. My houſe was made a Bethel to me indeed, the very gate of heaven. *Saturday* I preached again, and found in the day-time our Saviour had bleſſed my endeavours to ſome ſouls. About three in the afternoon we ſet out for *Wiltſhire*. On *Sunday* I preached at *Brinkworth*, on theſe words: "Thy Maker is thy huſband." It was a day of eſpouſals I believe to many. GOD was with us of a truth. After ſermon, I rode to *Longley*, in company with many dear children of GOD, who attended me both on horſeback and on foot. We ſung, and looked like perſons that had been at a ſpiritual wedding. The LORD helped me in preaching there alſo. All was quiet. In the evening I preached at *Tetherton*, and a bleſſed time it was. We rode like as the children of *Iſrael* paſſing through the enemies country. Afterwards we ſet out for *Hampton*, and reached there about midnight. After having travelled about thirty miles, I yet preached thrice. This morning I aroſe like a giant refreſhed with wine, and came hither about eleven. I found my mother recovered from her illneſs, and my own ſoul filled and bleſſed in CHRIST. O grace! how ſweet is it? I am glad you are thirſting after an abiding in GOD, after greater degrees of knowledge, both of yourſelf, and of JESUS CHRIST, whom to know is life eternal. In order to this, you muſt expect many trials, and well it is to be under the diſcipline of ſo tender a Maſter. I know you will pray to the LORD to make and keep me humble. I recommend you to his care, and wiſh you all the bleſſings of the everlaſting covenant, from

Yours,

G. W.

LETTER DXXV.

To the Same.

Briſtol, July 2, 1743.

I Wrote to you on *Saturday*, and on *Monday* from *Glouceſter*. I ſuppoſe you have wrote to *Trevecka*. Words cannot expreſs how good our bleſſed Saviour has been to me, ſince I wrote laſt. I preached there on *Monday* night, and *Tueſday* morning. The GOD of love filled my ſoul, and enabled me to ſpeak of his love with great power. Many felt it alſo. On *Tueſday* after morning ſermon I went to *Abergavenny*; JESUS was with me on the road; and we reached there about ten at night. On *Wedneſday* I went to *Trevecka*, where I met with a whole troop of JESU's witneſſes. I had ſome hours by myſelf, and ſhed many tears of love before the LORD. At five in the evening, I preached to a larger congregation than ever I had ſeen at *Trevecka*. JESUS was with us of a truth, and I felt the power of that blood upon my own ſoul, which I was recommending to others. After I had done, brother *H——l D——* and *R——* preached and prayed. The holy ſpirit came down, eſpecially when the latter preached, in a plentiful manner.—About eight we opened the aſſociation with great ſolemnity. Our Saviour was much with me, teaching and helping me to fill my place in a particular manner. The brethren felt the ſame. About midnight we adjourned; but ſeveral of the brethren ſat up all night, and uſhered in the morning with prayer and praiſe. About eight we met again, and were greatly delighted at the different and ſimple accounts the ſuperintendents brought in of their reſpective ſocieties. Some of their accounts were very particular, as to the ſtate of the people's ſouls; and ſeveral had gone off moſt triumphantly to glory. We continued doing buſineſs 'till two in the afternoon, and broke up with much ſolemnity and holy joy. Our Saviour kept the new-wine 'till laſt, and gave us a ſweet parting bleſſing. We had great union with one another. Indeed, JESUS has done great things for *Wales*. The work is much upon the advance. I was ſurprized to find ſo much order. Brother *H—— D——* has been bleſſed to the converſion of a young clergyman, Rector of St. *B——*, *London*. About five in the

the evening I returned to *Abergavenny*, and preached there on *Friday* morning, and afterwards set out for *Briſtol*, where we arrived about eight in the evening. My houſe, friends, &c. were made a great bleſſing to the ſoul of,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DXXVI.

To Mrs. D———.

Dear Madam, *Briſtol, July* 9, 1743.

HAVING no time to anſwer your requeſt concerning the *Hampton* mob, I herewith ſend you a letter, which I have juſt now received from my dear fellow-labourer, who is the principal object of their fury. This young confeſſor, ſome few years ago came out of curioſity to hear me, when firſt I preached upon *Hampton Common*, in *Glouceſterſhire*. Being converted himſelf, he found himſelf impelled to ſtrengthen his brethren. GOD has owned him much in *Hampton*, and the adjacent country, in calling by him many poor ſinners to the knowledge of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. How ſatan rages upon the account, you'll ſee in the incloſed, to which you are referred by, dear Madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

A Letter from Mr. A——, to the Rev. Mr. W———.

Hampton, July 8, 1743.

Honoured and very dear Sir,

BLeſſed be the dear JESUS, he hath brought me ſafe hither. He was alſo with me on the road, and I am perſuaded, that whatſoever ſufferings I am to paſs through here, all ſhall work together for good; for JESUS is and will be with me. The mob has breathed out many threatenings againſt me; but JESUS is greater than all, and I am perſuaded he'll let them find him ſo. I rode all down the town without the leaſt moleſtation, only many cried, (but ſilently as it were) "O, he is come home!" which was a ſurprizing thing to them; for a gentleman had affirmed, that he ſaw me in priſon. I have been walking up the town, without any diſturbance; but the

mob, they say, continue more and more exasperated. We expect them soon. They generally apprize one another, by ringing a bell. The whole mob consist of about an hundred: but JESUS keeps me without the least fear, and at the same time gives me quietly to wait on him for direction, how to act. A few of the dear disciples are by me. We have been praying together, and the LORD is with us. I believe death in its ugliest shapes would not be terrible to some here, at least I think so of myself; and when I look to the faithfulness of my Saviour, I can loudly say, "As my day is, so my strength shall be." Many of the people of the town have been with me, to tell me the respect they have for me, and how much they are concerned for the abuse that has been given us. I believe all will be well by and by. At the same time, I believe your coming might be much blessed to that end. I must conclude; but I think to give you a farther account on *Monday*, if our Saviour pleases. In the mean time, I heartily beg an interest in your prayers, and the whole society with you. Tell them, O tell them, to get ready for suffering, by cleaving close to the Lamb, rooted and grounded in him: withal please to give my kind love and service to them for JESU's sake, and be pleased to accept the same your dear self, and many thanks for all the tokens of unfeigned love conferred on

Your unworthy brother and servant,

T. A.

LETTER DXXVII.

To Mrs. D——.

My dear Madam, *Bristol, July* 14, 1743.

NOT doubting but you wait with impatience for dear Mr. *A*——'s promised second letter, after having just read it once over, I herein inclose it; having only time to beg the continuance of your prayers, and to desire you to send this with the former, as soon as possible, to

Yours, &c,

G. W.

Honoured

Honoured Sir, *July* 11, 1743.

I Promiſed in my laſt to write to you again, and to let you know more particularly of our perſecutions, which are as follow. On *Saturday* after I wrote to you, I met the ſociety, and after we had ſung an hymn, came brother *I*——, with my dear wife from *Briſtol*. They came into the ſociety and ſat down, while I exhorted them to ſtedfaſtneſs and patience under the croſs. They ſeemed much ſtrengthened, and ready for any ſuffering; for GOD was with us. After that, I deſired brother *I*—— to pray, which he did. After that I prayed in faith, and was enabled to plead CHRIST's promiſes to his church; though we are but a little branch. I had not prayed long, but many of us were perſuaded, he would never leave or forſake us. In every prayer we aſked direction how to act. I was perſuaded, the only way to ſtill the mob, was, not to reſiſt or fly from them, but to give myſelf up wholly to them, and let them do all that the LORD ſhould permit: for the more we had drawn back, the more our adverſaries rejoiced, and vowed they would and ſhould put an end to preaching in *Hampton*. The mob, which conſiſted of near an hundred, were now about the houſe, making a terrible noiſe, and ſwearing prodigiouſly. I went down to them and opened the door, and aſking them what they wanted. I told them, if they wanted my life, I was willing to deliver it up for JESUS's ſake; but withal I deſired to know, why they either diſturbed me or ſought my life? For I did not know I had given them any juſt cauſe for either. Some of them ſaid, I had, by bringing in falſe doctrine, and impoveriſhing the poor. I told them, that they could prove neither, and that it was really falſe. They ſeemed ſomething at a ſtand; when about five of them begun to be more exaſperated, and took me, in order to throw me into a lime pit. I told them, they need not force me, for I was willing to ſuffer, though unjuſtly, for JESUS's ſake. But while they were puſhing me along, ſome neighbours took me in their arms and carried me into one of their houſes; ſo I was delivered out of their hands. On ſabbath-day morning about twenty of the ſociety met again. We ſpent the morning in prayer. In the evening I preached, and had uncommon ſtrength and courage given

me from the LORD, so that death in its ugliest shapes did not at all terrify me. About five in the afternoon we met in my house. I first exhorted them to keep their minds close to the LORD, and if the mob came, not at all to resist, but to make way for them to come to me, and let them do what the LORD would permit. I then prayed and sung that hymn, "*Our lives, our blood, &c.*" When we had so done, in came the mob, demanding me to come down. I asked, by what authority they did so? They swore they would have me. Then said I, so you shall. So they took me to the lime-pit, and threw me in. But O what a power of GOD fell on my soul! I thought, with *Stephen*, the heavens opened to my sight, and the LORD JESUS was ready, if I had died, to receive me. I believe my undaunted courage shook some. I told them, I should meet them at the judgment, and then their faces would gather paleness. They let me out, and I came home and kneeled down with the people that were there, and prayed to, and praised GOD. After that, I exhorted from the three first verses of the third chapter of the first epistle of *John*. And when I was just concluding, in came the mob again, and took me to a brook to throw me in there. One, who was a persecutor but a few days before, endeavoured to hinder them; but they took me away, and led me all up the town. I had a sweet walk, and talked and reasoned with the persecutors all the way. My heart was full of love. Before I had gone far, all but one agreed to let me go back again, but he insisted upon my going. I told them, the law was open against them, nevertheless I was willing to suffer any thing for CHRIST. Then they told me, if I would forbear preaching but for a month, they would let me go; I told them, I would make no such promise. So forward I went. One of them threw me in, and I went to the bottom, but I came up again, with my hands clasped together. I did not desire to come out, till they fetched me. Accordingly, in jumped one or two of them and took me out; but then one maliciously and cowardly pushed me in again, and much bruised and cut one of my legs against a stone. Some of the others were going to throw him in for so doing. I came home talking to them. Many seemed to repent of what they had done, and promised to molest me no more. I believe,

GOD

GOD has smote some of their consciences. One who was the chief, and would not agree that I should go back, I hear by several, he says he will in no wise touch me again. Many advise us to prosecute them; but if they are quiet, I am content, and can say from my heart, "Father, forgive them." I should be glad if you would be here next *Sunday*. In the mean time pray for me, who am,

Your unworthy brother and servant,

T. A.

LETTER DXXVIII.

To Mr. B——.

Dear Friend, *Bristol, July* 19, 1743.

I Have been so employed for some time past in preaching and travelling, that I could not possibly correspond with you or others as usual; but you see where I am; I came here to preach at the fair; because people from all parts flock hither at that season. Yesterday I preached four times, and twice statedly every day. O that sinners may be made willing to come and buy of CHRIST's wine, and of CHRIST's milk, without money and without price! Last night was such a time as I never saw in *Bristol* society before. To morrow, GOD willing, I set out for *Hampton*, to see what can be done for the poor persecuted sheep of CHRIST there. I hear I am threatened, but JESUS will stand by me. In what manner, expect to hear again soon, from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXIX.

To the Same.

My dear Friend,

Hampton, July 25, 1743.

ON *Thursday* I came here, and expected to be attacked; because I had heard, that the mob which had been so outragious towards you and others for so long time, had now threatened, that if ever I came there again, they would have a piece of my black gown to make aprons with. No sooner

had I entered the town, but I saw and heard the signals, such as blowing of horns, and ringing of bells for gathering the mob. My soul was kept quite easy. I preached in a large grass plat from these words, "And seeing the grace of GOD, he exhorted them with full purpose of heart to cleave unto the LORD;" and as it happened, I finished my sermon and pronounced the blessing, just as the ring-leader of the mob broke in upon us, which I soon perceived disappointed and grieved them very much. One of them, as I was coming down from the table, called me *coward*; but I told him, they should hear from me another way. I then went into the house, and preached upon the stair case to a large number of serious souls; but these real troublers of *Israel* soon came in to mock and mob us. But feeling what I never felt before, as you know I have very little natural courage, strength and power being given us from above, I leaped down stairs, and all ran away before me. However they continued making a noise about the house till midnight, abusing the poor people as they went home, and as we hear they broke one young lady's arm in two places. Brother *A*—— they threw a second time into the pool, in which operation he received a deep wound in his leg. *John C*——'s life, that second *Bunyan*, was much threatened.—Young *W*—— *H*—— they wheeled in a barrow to the pool's side, lamed his brother, and grievously hurt several others. Hearing that two or three clergymen were in the town, one of whom was a justice of the peace, I went to them; but alas! I seemed unto them as one that mocked, and instead of redressing, they laid the cause of all the grievances at my door; but, by the help of my GOD, I shall still persist in preaching myself, and in encouraging those (as I know no law of GOD or man against it) who I believe are truly moved by the Holy Ghost. As I came out from the clergymen, two of the unhappy mobbers were particularly insolent, and huzza'd us out of town. "Let us rejoice and be exceeding glad," for now I humbly hope, I begin to be a disciple of JESUS CHRIST; since to suffer for, as well as to believe and preach his precious truths, and own his despis'd people, is now given to,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXXX.

To Mr. J—— S——.

My dear Friend, *Briſtol, July* 27, 1743.

ON *Friday* night I reached *Glouceſter*, where I received your kind and animating letter. On *Saturday* I came hither. Yeſterday was an high day: I preached four times in the fields, and the congregations were as large as at the beginning: bleſſed ſeaſons indeed! Here are people from all quarters. I am juſt going out to preach again, and therefore can only add, that perhaps I may ſet out for *Exeter* on *Wedneſday*, from whence you may expect to hear again, from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXXI.

To the Same.

Dear Sir, *Exeter, July* 31, 1743.

WE came hither in ſafety laſt night. Upon the road my ſoul was ſweetly humbled before GOD, who hath given me near acceſs to his throne. Good Mr. *K*——, our hoſt, and his yoke-fellow, ſeem to be *Iſraelites* indeed. In all probability an effectual door will be opened for preaching the everlaſting goſpel. I am to begin this evening. Brethren, pray for us. I ſleep but little; inward comforts ſupport and ſtrengthen both ſoul and body. Join me in crying, Grace! grace! In great haſte and greater affection, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Yours affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DXXXII.

To the Same.

My dear Man, *Exon, Aug.* 2, 1743.

I Wrote unto you on *Saturday*, and preached the ſame evening to a great body of people. Several of the clergy attended, with whom this city abounds. Some went off, others ſtaid 'till I had done. All was quiet, and our LORD ſoon made way for himſelf into the people's hearts. Yeſterday

evening I preached on *Southean-hay* to upwards of ten thousand; 'twas juſt like a *Moor-fields* congregation. GOD was with us of a truth. The people were very deſirous of my longer continuance here; but ſo many things concurred to call me to *London*, that after cloſe application to the throne of grace, and conſultation with my friends, I am determined, GOD willing, to leave *Exeter* to-morrow morning, and to preach with Mr. *D*—— in my way to town. I find I am in my element, when evangelizing. Our Saviour fills my heart with his preſence, and has in a particular manner prepared the people's hearts in the *Weſt* for receiving the goſpel-meſſage. He keeps me happy and chearful amidſt all my various trials, for which I pray you to join in thankſgiving with

Your affectionate friend, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXXIII.

To Mr. H——, at Glouceſter.

London, Aug. 20, 1743.

My dear Mr. H———,

HOW wonderfully does our all-wiſe Redeemer order things for the trial of his children! Alas! alas! how apt are they to judge, cenſure, and be needleſsly prejudiced againſt each other. Being weak in body, and under great concern of mind upon ſeveral accounts, I deſired dear Mr. *G*—— to acquaint you, that in our laſt aſſociation we agreed not to ſeparate from the eſtabliſhed church, but go on in our uſual way. Indeed, the motion to ſeparate, was only made by a very few of more contracted principles. By far the greater part moſt ſtrenuouſly oppoſed it, and with good reaſon; for as we enjoy ſuch great liberty under the mild and gentle government of his preſent Majeſty king *George*, we think we can do him, our country, and the cauſe of GOD, more ſervice in ranging up and down, preaching repentance towards GOD and faith in our LORD JESUS, to thoſe multitudes who would neither come into church or meeting, but who are led by curioſity to follow us into the fields. However diſorderly this may ſeem to bigots of every denomination, yet it is a way to which GOD has affixed his ſeal for many years paſt, and

therefore we have no reaſon to turn to the right hand or to the left, but to preſs forwards and to do our utmoſt towards enlarging the kingdom of our LORD JESUS; not doubting, but when we come to ſtand at his bar, we ſhall be received with as equal an *Euge-bone* as thoſe, who thro' prejudice, or want of better information, cenſure us as going beyond our line. That this may be our happy caſe, you will join in praying with

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXXIV.

To Mrs D——.

Dear Madam, *London, Sept.* 2, 1743.

A Thouſand thanks for your kind ſolicitude concerning me and mine. My wife has been in trying circumſtances, partly through the unſkilfulneſs of a chaiſe-driver, I mean myſelf. Being adviſed to take her out into the air, I drove her as well as myſelf, through inadvertence, into a ditch. Finding that we were falling, ſhe put her hand croſs the chaiſe, and thereby preſerved us both from being thrown out. The ditch might be about 14 feet deep, but bleſſed be GOD, though all that ſaw us falling, cried out, they are killed, yet, through infinite mercy, we received no great hurt. The place was very narrow near the bottom, and yet the horſe went down, as tho' let down by a pulley. A ſtander-by ran down and catched hold of its head, to prevent its going forwards. I got upon its back and was drawn out by a long whip; whilſt my wife hanging between the chaiſe and the bank, was pulled up on the other ſide by two or three kind aſſiſtants. Being both in a comfortable frame, I muſt own, to my ſhame, that I felt rather regret than thankfulneſs in eſcaping what I thought would be a kind of a tranſlation, to our wiſhed-for haven. But O amazing love! we were ſo ſtrengthened, that the chaiſe and horſe being taken up, and our bruiſes being waſhed with vinegar in a neighbouring houſe, we went on our intended way, and came home rejoicing in GOD our Saviour. Not expecting my wife's delivery

for some time, I intend making a short excursion, and then you may expect further news from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXXV.

To the Same.

Dear Madam, *London, Oct.* 5, 1743.

MY last left me just entering upon another short excursion. Blessed be GOD, it was pleasant because it was profitable to my own, and I trust to many other souls. The last evening of it, I preached from a balcony to many thousands, who stood in the street as comfortable as at noon-day. Upon retiring to my lodgings, news was brought me, that GOD had given me a son. This hastened me up to *London*, where I now am, and from whence after I have baptized my little one, GOD willing, I purpose to set out again on my Master's public business. You will not fail to pray, that I may be taught how to order the child aright, and thereby add to the many obligations already laid on, dear Madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXXVI.

To Mr. S——

Avon, Wilts, October 15, 1743.

My dear Friend,

I Must not be long from *London* without writing to you. Our Saviour brought me hither last night, and filled me as with new wine. I purpose staying till *Monday*; if you write, direct for me at *Bristol*. I trust our LORD hath much people here. This leaves me in spirit sitting at his feet. Praying this may find you there, I am

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXXXVII.

To the Same.

Cullompton, Oct. 25, 1743.

I Wrote to you on the 15th inſtant, at *Avon*. In the morning I walked to *Tetherton*, and preached there with much of the divine preſence, and to the abundant ſatisfaction and comfort of GOD's people. After ſermon, I baptized four boys, each about three months old, as near as I can remember. The ordinance was ſo ſolemn and awful that Mrs. *G*—— (who you know is a quaker) had a mind immediately to partake of it. When I go to *Wiltſhire*, I believe I ſhall baptize her and her children, with ſome adult perſons that have taſted of redeeming love. About one o'clock I preached at *Clack* in the ſtreet. All was quiet. I then rode to *Brinkworth*, and was enabled to preach there with ſtill greater freedom, and afterwards adminiſtred the Holy Sacrament to about two hundred and fifty communicants. Our LORD made himſelf known to many in breaking of bread. Some ſtrangers, that came from *Bath*, went home filled with our Redeemer's preſence. I have preached at *Chippenham*. I hope I managed all things right about the affair of the *Hampton* rioters. It ſeems, they have compelled us to appeal unto *Cæſar*. Evidences ſhall be examined in the country, time enough to ſend their examinations up to town. We had a wonderful time in *Wiltſhire*. On *Saturday* laſt, when I came to *Wellington*, the Reverend Mr. *D*—— perſuaded me to ſtay there, becauſe the country people had come from all quarters ſeveral times to hear me, and had been diſappointed. I conſented, and preached in his meeting-houſe in the evening to a large auditory. The Reverend Mr. *F*——*t*, formerly pupil to doctor *D*——, came there, and ſtaid all night. The bleſſed JESUS gave us much freedom in converſation. I hope both will be inſtruments under GOD in promoting a good work in theſe parts. *Sunday* morning I preached again in the meeting-houſe, and in the evening to ſeven thouſand in the fields. On *Monday* about ten in the morning, and in the afternoon about two, I preached at *Cullompton* with much freedom and power; was kindly received, met ſome reputable diſſenters, and am now ſetting out for

Exeter with dear Mr. *K*——, who came here to meet my dear friend.

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXXXVIII.

To the Same.

Exeter, October 28, 1743.

I Have ſtrong conviction that our LORD intends doing ſomething in the weſt. Since my arrival here, letters of invitation have come from many parts. I thank you for your kind ſympathy under the many trials, with which I have been ſurrounded and exerciſed. I find there is a needs-be for all; for by our being acquainted with the enemy's work in our own hearts, we ſee how he works on others, and are enabled to ſpeak better to their hearts. "Whether we are afflicted (ſays the apoſtle,) or whether we are comforted, it is for your ſake." Beſides, by temptation we are kept from ſinking into formality, and conſequently are taught better to handle our ſpiritual weapons, and diſcover what is amiſs both in heart and life. For this cauſe, we are commanded to rejoice when we fall into divers temptations. I thank GOD for giving you ſome experience of theſe things. We muſt now all be *Calebs*; all heart, but at the ſame time, all humility. Feeling we can do nothing of ourſelves, yet believing we can do all things through CHRIST ſtrengthening us. Bleſſed be his Name, the common people begin to feel. I preached between two and three this afternoon on *Southern-hay*, and expounded in the evening at Mr. *K*——'s. Even ſome of the polite were much affected laſt night; and this morning, O what a bleſſed ſeaſon had we! I believe I ſhall think it my duty to ſtay in theſe parts for ſome time. Continue to pray for me, and aſſure yourſelf that you are never forgotten by

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXXXIX.

To the Same.

Exeter, Nov. 6, 1743.

ALL being hushed and solemn around me, and my soul filled with the peace of GOD that passeth all understanding, I now sit down to give you a further account of my feeble labours. On *Monday* last I went to *Axminster*, and preached to about two thousand without, and afterward exhorted within the house, where I lay. The next day I preached to a greater number of people, and with more freedom. I gave an exhortation at night, and met the society. Our LORD vouchsafed us a gracious blessing. On *Wednesday* I went to *Ottery*, but just as I named my text, the bells rang. Upon this I adjourned to a field, whither the people ran in droves.—As I stepped into the inn, before I went into the field, a clergyman came, who asked me by what authority I preached, said it was a riot, and that the meeting was illegal. I answered him as I thought pertinently, and afterwards went and shewed him my authority, by preaching on these words: "Go ye to all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Between six and seven in the evening, I returned to *Exeter*, where some hundreds were waiting to hear me expound. The LORD was with us. The LORD makes this place very comfortable to me. Prejudices fall off daily, and people begin not only rationally to discern, but powerfully to feel the doctrines of the gospel. To-morrow, GOD willing, I go with Mr. *K*—— to *Biddeford*. From thence expect to hear again from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

Postscript. Ten at night.— It would have pleased you to have been here this evening. I question, whether near a third part of *Exeter* were not attending on the word preached. All was solemn and awful, and the LORD gave me much assistance from his holy spirit. Help me to praise him. Adieu! Good night! The LORD be with you.

LETTER

LETTER DXL.

To Mrs. D———.

Dear Madam, *Biddeford, Nov.* 11, 1743.

I Thank you for your kind caution to ſpare myſelf; but evangelizing is certainly my province. Every where effectual doors are opened, and great freedom is given to me both in public preaching and private converſation. Many are bleſſed by both. The Rev. Mr. *J——N——*, rector of *St. Gennis*, *Cornwall*, is here. GOD willing, I'll go with him on *Saturday*. Here is alſo another clergyman about eighty years of age, but not above one year old in the ſchool and knowledge of CHRIST. He lately preached three times and rode forty miles the ſame day. The diſſenting miniſter and his wife were very hearty, and perhaps here is one of the moſt ſettled female chriſtian ſocieties in the kingdom. I cannot well deſcribe with what power the word was attended. Yeſterday in the afternoon, and in the evening, it was juſt like as at *Edinburgh*. The old clergyman was much broken. A young *Oxonian*, who came with him, and many others, were moſt deeply affected. I ſuppoſe there were upwards of two thouſand in the evening in the Meeting-houſe. Dear Mr. *H——y*, one of our firſt Methodiſts at *Oxford*, and who was lately a curate here, had laid the bleſſed foundation. So far therefore from thinking of neſtling at *London*, that I am more and more convinced that I ſhould go from place to place, and therefore queſtion if I ſhall ſee *London* for ſome time. If not too angry with me for proſecuting this rambling way of life, be pleaſed to pray for, dear madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

Poſtſcript. Seven at night. To-day hath been as yeſterday, and much more abundant. I am here, as in *Scotland* and *New-England*. Praiſe to free grace! Here is work enough for ſome months. The weather is very favourable; range, therefore, I muſt and will.

LETTER

LETTER DXLI.

To the Same.

Dear Madam, *St. Gennis, Nov.* 25, 1743.

GLAD I am that GOD inclined my heart to come hither. He hath been with us of a truth. How did his ſtately ſteps appear in the ſanctuary laſt LORD's-day? Many, many prayers were put up by the worthy Rector, and others, for an out-pouring of GOD's bleſſed ſpirit. They were anſwered. Arrows of conviction fled ſo thick and ſo faſt, and ſuch an univerſal weeping prevailed from one end of the congregation to the other, that good Mr. *J*——— could not help going from ſeat to ſeat to ſpeak, encourage, and comfort the wounded ſouls. The *Oxonian*'s father was almoſt ſtruck dumb; and the young *Oxonian*'s creſt was ſo lowered, that I believe he'll never venture to preach an unknown CHRIST, or deal in the falſe commerce of unfelt truths. I could enlarge, but I muſt away to *Biddeford*, juſt to give ſatan another ſtroke, and bid my chriſtian friends farewel, and then return the way I came, namely through *Exeter*, *Wellington* and *Briſtol*, to the great metropolis: but journeying, and various other matters that lie before me, I expect will prevent your hearing ſo frequently as uſual, from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXLII.

To Mr. J—— S——.

Brinkworth, December 18, 1743.

My dear Friend,

'TIS paſt eleven at night, but leſt I ſhould not have time to-morrow at *Glouceſter*, which I intend to take in my way to *Birmingham*, I'll rob myſelf of a little ſleep to write to you now. On *Friday* evening we reached five miles beyond *Reading*. Laſt night about nine we got to *Clack*. It rained and ſnowed much for about ſeven miles, and the way was dangerous; but the bleſſed JESUS kept us in ſafety. In the morning I preached and gave the ſacrament at *Tetherton*. This evening

evening I preached here. They were good times. I have a cold, but our LORD warms my heart. To-morrow I muſt away to *Glouceſter*. O follow, follow with your prayers.

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXLIII.

To the Same.

Birmingham, Dec. 27, 1743.

WANT of time, not of love, prevented my writing to you from *Glouceſter*. Neither have I now leiſure to be very particular. It is near eleven at night, and nature calls for reſt. I have preached five times this day, and, weak as I am, through CHRIST ſtrengthening me, I could preach five times more. I think I was ſcarce ever ſo happy before. Surprizing! how the LORD JESUS hath made way for me in theſe parts. I loſe nothing by being quiet and leaving all to him. O was you here, what could I not tell you? The weather is juſt like Spring. That the day-ſpring from on high may viſit your heart, till you riſe to eternal perfect day, earneſtly prays

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXLIV.

To the Same.

My dear Friend, *Birmingham, Dec.* 31, 1743.

WHAT do you think? Since my laſt, I have ſtole a whole day to diſpatch ſome private buſineſs: however, in the evening I expounded to a great room full of people, who would ruſh into my lodgings, whether I would or not. On *Sunday* morning at eight I preached in the ſtreet to about a thouſand, with much freedom. I then went to church and received the ſacrament, and afterwards preached to ſeveral thouſands in the ſtreet. The hearers ſeemed much pleaſed and delighted. It happened by the providence of GOD, that no miniſter would come to preach at a houſe at *Wedgbury*, where a weekly lecture uſed to be kept up: I was therefore earneſtly entreated to come. I went, after my afternoon's preaching

preaching at *Birmingham*, and preached there at ſix in the evening to many hundreds in the ſtreet. It is about ſix miles from *Birmingham*. The word came with power, and only one or two made a noiſe at a diſtance. Afterwards we had a precious meeting in private. The power of the dear Redeemer was much amongſt us. The perſon with whom I lodged was a widow fearing GOD. Her huſband was an eminent ſaint, and had been refreſhed by my writings, particularly my journals, as had many others that I met with. On *Monday* morning about eight I preached to a large company in a field. By eleven I returned to *Birmingham*, and preached to many thouſands on a Common near the town. The ſoldiers were exerciſing; but the officers hearing that I was coming to preach, diſmiſſed them, and promiſed that no diſturbance ſhould be made. All was quiet, and a bleſſed time we had. In the afternoon about three I preached again to about the ſame company, with the ſame ſucceſs. Then I rode to *Wedgbury* and preached there, and afterwards exhorted: but I cannot well tell you, what a ſweet melting time there was. Many were in tears. About one I went to bed exceeding happy. In the morning I broke up ſome fallow ground at a place called *Mare-Green*, about two miles from *Wedgbury*. Much mobbing had been there againſt Mr. *Weſley*'s friends. A few poor ſouls began to inſult me, but JESUS ſtrengthened me much. Several clods were thrown, one of them fell on my head, and another ſtruck my fingers, while I was in prayer. A ſweet goſpel ſpirit was given to me. I preached again at *Birmingham* to larger auditories than before, about eleven the ſame morning and three in the afternoon. In the evening I expounded twice in a large room. Once to the rich, and once to the poor, and went to reſt happier than the night before. In the morning I took my leave of the *Birmingham* people, who wept much and were indeed deeply affected, and ſhewed great concern at my departure. I then went to *Kidderminſter*, about twelve miles from *Birmingham*, where I was kindly received by Mr. *W——ms*, with whom I have correſponded for near two years. Many friends were at his houſe. I was greatly refreſhed to find what a ſweet ſavour of good Mr. *Baxter*'s doctrine, works and diſcipline remained to this day.

The

The sweet remembrance of the just,
Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust.

I preached about three in the afternoon to a large auditory near the church. Some unkind men, though they promised not to do so, rang the bells; but our Saviour enabled me to preach with power. In the evening and next morning I preached in the meeting house. I then went with Mr. *W*—— to *Bromsgrove*, about seven miles from *Kidderminster*, and was kindly received by one Mr. *K*——*y*, a good man, and several others, among whom were two or three Baptist and one Independent ministers. About three in the afternoon I preached in a field. Some rude people kicked a football and sounded a horn at some distance, but the LORD enabled me to preach with boldness. About six I preached in the Baptist Meeting-house, left *Kidderminster* at eight, and reached *Worcester* about ten at night. Mr. *W*——*ms* and another friend accompanied us. In the morning the good old Mr. *S*——*y*, who was supposed to be sanctified from the womb, came to us while we baited. In the evening I reached *Gloucester*, very thankful for my week's progress, and rejoicing greatly in CHRIST for giving me such a delightful and happy Christmas. This day I have preached twice here, and have been enabled to dispatch some private affairs. It is now near twelve. My dear friend, I wish you an exceeding happy new-year. This time twelve-month I was writing to you from *Bristol*. O what has the dear LORD JESUS done for me since that, and since I was born! And O what does he intend to do for me before I die, and when time shall be no more? I am lost in wonder! I must away and cry Grace! grace! Praying that you may be filled with all the fulness of GOD, I subscribe, my dearest friend,

Ever, ever yours whilst

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXLV.

To Mr. H——, at Glouceſter.

Maſhfield, Jan. 7, 1744, (*paſt* 7 *at night.*)

My very dear Mr. H——;

IT being wet and dark, we thought it prudent to ſtay here this night. I cannot employ part of the evening better than in writing to you, and bleſſed be our GOD, I can ſend you good news. Our gracious LORD was with me at *Pitchcomb* and *Hampton*. We have had a wonderful ſweet aſſociation in *Wales*, with much of the Redeemer's preſence, eſpecially when I began to ſpeak about the law affair. The brethren were very generous, according to their circumſtances, and one gentlewoman ſent me five pounds. After mature deliberation, we determined to proſecute the affair to the utmoſt, and to ſet apart next *Tueſday* fortnight (the firſt day of the term) for a day of faſting and prayer, and to make collections for that purpoſe. The cauſe is the LORD's, and much depends on our getting the victory. I believe we ſhall. I have had a favourable anſwer from Colonel *S*——, and alſo from Colonel *Gar*——. Hitherto the LORD proſpers us. I am now going to *London* very happy, and in ſome meaſure thankful for the many bleſſings I have received. Help me, my dear friend, to cry Grace! grace! Incloſed you have ſome letters: be pleaſed to peruſe and deliver them. I bleſs GOD that affairs have taken ſuch a turn. I have been at *Abergavenny*, and am ſettled as to my dear wife's coming down. Bleſſed be GOD, ſhe and the little one are pretty well. I ſhall be glad to hear from you when I come to *London*. I hope our LORD bleſſes you, both in body and ſoul, and ſhews you the way wherein you ſhould go. That you may be continually guided by his counſel, and after death conducted to his glory, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DXLVI.

To the Same.

London, Jan. 18, 1744.

THIS afternoon I received your kind letter, and thank you a thousand times for your great generosity in lending me some furniture, having little of my own. I know who will repay you. Next week, GOD willing, my dear wife and little one will come to *Gloucester*, for I find it beyond my circumstances to maintain them here. I leave *London*, GOD willing, this day fev'nnight. Your affairs and concerns are mine. I shall lay them before our common Lord. My brother will receive a letter about my wife's coming. She and the little one are brave and well. But why talk I of wife and little one? Let all be absorbed in the thoughts of the love, sufferings, free and full salvation of the infinitely great and glorious *Emmanuel*. Blessed, for ever blessed be his holy Name, for such happy beginnings of another year! How would it rejoice you to see the many thousands in this metropolis, like new-born babes, desiring to be fed with the sincere milk of the word, that they may grow thereby. This, if I know any thing of my heart, is all my salvation, and all my desire. In respect to other things, at present I know this is, and I trust always will be the habitual language of my heart: O blessed GOD,

Thy gifts, if call'd for, I resign,
Pleas'd to receive, pleas'd to restore;
Gifts are thy work; it shall be mine,
The giver only to adore.

That both of us may be always kept thus minded, is the earnest prayer of

Yours most affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DXLVII.

To Mr. D—— T——

My dear Friend, *Gloucester, Feb.* 9, 1744.

WHO knows what a day may bring forth? Last night I was called to sacrifice my *Isaac*; I mean to bury my

my only child and son about four months old. Many things occurred to make me believe he was not only to be continued to me, but to be a preacher of the everlasting gospel. Pleased with the thought, and ambitious of having a son of my own, so divinely employed, satan was permitted to give me some wrong impressions, whereby, as I now find, I misapplied several texts of scripture. Upon these grounds I made no scruple of declaring, "that I should have a son, and that his name was to be *John*." I mentioned the very time of his birth, and fondly hoped, that he was to be great in the sight of the LORD. Every thing happened according to the predictions, and my wife having had several narrow escapes while pregnant, especially by her falling from a high horse, and my driving her into a deep ditch in a one-horse chaise a little before the time of her lying-in, and from which we received little or no hurt, confirmed me in my expectation, that GOD would grant me my heart's desire. I would observe to you, that the child was even born in a room, which the master of the house had prepared as a prison for his wife for coming to hear me. With joy would she often look upon the bars and staples and chains which were fixed in order to keep her in. About a week after his birth, I publickly baptized him in the Tabernacle, and in the company of thousands solemnly gave him up to that GOD, who gave him to me. A hymn, too fondly composed by an aged widow, as suitable to the occasion, was sung, and all went away big with hopes of the child's being hereafter to be employed in the work of GOD; but how soon are all their fond, and as the event hath proved, their ill-grounded expectations blasted, as well as mine. House-keeping being expensive in *London*, I thought best to send both parent and child to *Abergavenny*, where my wife had a little house of my own, the furniture of which, as I thought of soon embarking for *Georgia*, I had partly sold, and partly given away. In their journey thither, they stopped at *Glocester*; at the *Bell-Inn*, which my brother now keeps, and in which I was born. There, my beloved was cut off with a stroke. Upon my coming here, without knowing what had happened, I enquired concerning the welfare of parent and child; and by the answer, found that the flower was cut down. I immediately called all to join in prayer, in which I blessed the Father of mercies for giving me

a ſon, continuing it to me ſo long, and taking it from me ſo ſoon. All joined in deſiring that I would decline preaching 'till the child was buried; but I remembered a ſaying of good Mr. *Henry*, "that weeping muſt not hinder ſowing," and therefore preached twice the next day, and alſo the day following; on the evening of which, juſt as I was cloſing my ſermon, the bell ſtruck out for the funeral. At firſt, I muſt acknowledge, it gave nature a little ſhake, but looking up I recovered ſtrength, and then concluded with ſaying, that this text on which I had been preaching, namely, "all things worked together for good to them that love GOD," made me as willing to go out to my ſon's funeral, as to hear of his birth. Our parting from him was ſolemn. We kneeled down, prayed, and ſhed many tears, but I hope tears of reſignation: And then, as he died in the houſe wherein I was born, he was taken and laid in the church where I was baptized, firſt communicated, and firſt preached. All this you may eaſily gueſs threw me into very ſolemn and deep reflection, and I hope deep humiliation; but I was comforted from that paſſage in the book of Kings, where is recorded the death of the *Shunamite*'s child, which the Prophet ſaid, "The LORD had hid from him;" and the woman's anſwer likewiſe to the Prophet when he aſked, "Is it well with thee? Is it well with thy huſband? Is it well with thy child?" And ſhe anſwered, "*It is well.*" This gave me no ſmall ſatisfaction. I immediately preached upon the text the day following at *Glouceſter*, and then haſtened up to *London*, preached upon the ſame there; and though diſappointed of a living preacher by the death of my ſon; yet I hope what happened before his birth, and ſince at his death, hath taught me ſuch leſſons, as, if duly improved, may render his miſtaken parent more cautious, more ſober-minded, more experienced in ſatan's devices, and conſequently more uſeful in his future labours to the church of GOD. Thus, "out of the eater comes forth meat, and out of the ſtrong comes forth ſweetneſs." Not doubting but our future life will be one continued explanation of this bleſſed riddle, I commend myſelf and you to the unerring guidance of GOD's word and ſpirit, and am

Yours, &c.

G. W.

The

The HYMN mentioned in the foregoing Letter.

I.

POOR helpleſs babe! dear little child!
JOHN *be thy name, thy nature mild;*
Great may'ſt thou be in JESU'*s ſight,*
A babe in whom he takes delight.

II.

Be thou made holy from the womb,
*By him who ſav'd thee from the * tomb:*
In JESU'*s arms ſtill may'ſt thou reſt,*
While ſucking at thy mother's breaſt.

III.

Bleſt be the parents with the ſon!
Bleſt be the GOD *that gave you one!*
We'll magnify the LORD *with you!*
Share in your joy, we're ſure we do.

IV.

O may you both be taught of GOD,
To teach this Child his SAVIOUR'*s blood:*
That thouſands in your bliſs may ſhare,
In anſwer to united pray'r.

V.

And may the Lamb, *your* Maſter, *grant*
This grace, that you may never want
A child to ſtand before his face,
To preach his Love, his Sov'reign Grace!

* Alluding to the remarkable deliverance that his father and mother had ſome few weeks before his mother was delivered, when ſhe and her huſband being riding in a chaiſe, they were thrown into a deep ditch, and received no harm, as mentioned in Letter 534, p. 39.

LETTER DXLVIII.

To Mr. G. H———.

London, Feb. 24, 1744.

My dear dear Mr. H——,

MUltiplicity of urgent affairs has kept me from anſwering your kind letter ſooner. Bleſſed be GOD for giving you ſuch a proſperous journey. I am not ſorry that ſome, after their much joy, have been brought down and plunged into much miſery. It is no more than might be expected. Stolen ſweets prepare for bitter tears. On *Monday* morning I ſhall know what the rioters intend doing. There has been dreadful work near *Birmingham*, but ſatan will be overthrown. We had a glorious faſt on *Monday*, and collected above ſixty pounds for our poor ſuffering brethren. We have had two ſolemn funerals. I hope the work proſpers in your hands. Our lawyer hath ſent me word, that the rioters ſtand trial.—I think, GOD willing, to be in *Glouceſterſhire* by *Monday* ſev'nnight. The LORD be with you. I ſalute all, and am, my dear Mr. *H———*,

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy friend and ready ſervant,

G. W.

Feb. 26.

P. S. Since I wrote the above, I have conſulted with friends, and find it beſt to come through *Glouceſter* to *Abergavenny*.—God willing, I hope to preach with you on *Tueſday* between ſeven and eight at night. Be pleaſed immediately on the receipt of this to ſend word to brother *Adams* to meet me without fail at *Glouceſter* on *Tueſday*, to confer about our aſſize affair. I heard yeſterday from *Wales*. I bought a ſecond-hand ſuit of curtains to-day, ſo you need not ſend any thing to *Abergavenny*. "Poor, yet making others rich," ſhall be my motto ſtill.

LETTER DXLIX.

London, March 12, 1744.

My dear Friend,

THIS leaves me juſt returned from *Glouceſter* aſſizes, where it has pleaſed the great Judge of quick and dead to give

give us the victory over the *Hampton* rioters. You remember I informed you, that I thought we ſhould be obliged to appeal unto *Cæſar*. A ſolemn day of faſting and humiliation was kept on that account; and accordingly laſt term we lodged an information againſt them in the *King's-Bench*. Matters of fact being proved by a variety of evidence, and the defendants making no reply, the rule was made abſolute, and an information filed againſt them. To this they pleaded *Not guilty*, and therefore, according to the method of the Crown-office, the cauſe was referred to the aſſizes held in *Glouceſter* the third inſtant. Our council opened the cauſe by informing the court, that rioters were not to be reformers, and that his Majeſty had no where put the reins of government into the hands of mobbers, nor made them either judge or jury. One of them in particular, the *Recorder of Oxford*, with great gravity, reminded the gentlemen on the jury of the advice of *Gamaliel*, "Refrain from theſe men and let them alone, for if this council, or this work be of man, it will come to nought; but if it be of GOD, ye cannot overthrow it, leaſt haply ye be found even to fight againſt GOD." Our witneſſes were then called. Mr. *Adams* and four more, three of which were not reputed Methodiſts, ſo clearly proved both the riot and the facts, that the judge was of opinion, there needed no other evidence. The council for the defendants then roſe up, and diſplayed a good deal of oratory, and I think ſaid all that could be ſaid to mend a bad matter. One urged, "that we were enthuſiaſts, and our principles and practices had ſuch a tendency to infect and hurt the people, that it was right, in his opinion, for any private perſon to ſtand up and put a ſtop to us; and whoever did ſo, was a friend to his country." He ſtrove to influence the jury, by telling them, "That if a verdict was given againſt the defendants, it would coſt them two hundred pounds; that the defendants rioting was not premeditated, but that coming to hear Mr. *A*——, and being offended at his doctrine, a ſudden quarrel aroſe, and thereby the unhappy men were led into the preſent fray, which he could have wiſhed had not happened; but however, it did not amount to a riot, but only an aſſault." Their other council informed the jury, "That they would undertake to prove, that the Methodiſts began the tumult firſt." He was pleaſed to mention me by name, and acquainted the

court, " That Mr. *Whitefield* had been travelling from common to common, making the people cry, and then picking their pockets, under pretence of collecting money for the colony of *Georgia*; and knowing that *Glouceſterſhire* was a populous county, he at laſt came there; that he had now ſeveral curates, of which Mr. *Adams* was one, who in his preaching had found fault with the proceedings of the clergy, and had ſaid, that if the people went to hear them, they would be damned." He added, that " there had lately been ſuch mobbing in *Staffordſhire*, that a regiment of ſoldiers was ſent down to ſuppreſs them; inſinuating, that the Methodiſts were the authors; that we had now another cauſe of a like nature depending in *Wiltſhire*, and that we were not of that mild pacific ſpirit, as we pretended to be." This, and much more to the ſame purpoſe, though foreign to the matter in hand, pleaſed many of the auditors, who expreſſed their ſatisfaction, in hearing the Methodiſts in general, and me in particular, thus laſhed, by frequent laughing. But our LORD not only kept me quite eaſy, but enabled me to rejoice in being thus honoured for his great Name's ſake. To prove what the defendants council had inſinuated, they called up a young man, who was a brother to one of the defendants, and one of the mob. He ſwore point blank, " That Mr. *Adams* ſaid, if people went to church, they would be damned, but if they would come to him, he would carry them to JESUS CHRIST." He ſwore alſo, " that the brook into which Mr. *A*—— was thrown, was no deeper than half up his legs." He ſaid firſt, that there were but about ten of them that came to the houſe of Mr. *A*——; and then he ſwore, that there were about threeſcore. He ſaid, there was a bell, and that one of the defendants did aſk Mr. *A*—— to come off the ſtairs, but that none of them went up to him: upon which Mr. *A*—— willingly obeyed, went with them briſkly along the ſtreet, and as he would have repreſented it, put himſelf into the ſkin-pit and brook, and ſo came out again. He ſaid alſo ſome other things; but through the whole, his evidence appeared ſo flagrantly falſe, that one of the council ſaid, " It was enough to make his hair ſtand an end." The judge himſelf wiſhed, " That the man had ſo much religion as to fear an oath." So he went down in diſgrace. Their ſecond evidence was an aged woman, mother of one of the de-

fendants; ſhe ſwore, "That her ſon did go up ſtairs to Mr. *A*——, and that Mr. *A*—— tore her ſon's coat;" but ſhe talked ſo faſt, and her evidence was ſo palpably falſe, that ſhe was ſent away in as much diſgrace as the other. Their third and laſt evidence, was father to one who was in the mob, tho' not one of the defendants. The chief he had to ſay was, "That when Mr. *A*—— was coming from the brook, he met "him and ſaid, Brother, how do you do? Upon which he an-"ſwer'd, that he had received no damage, but had been in the "brook and came out again." So that all their evidences, however contrary one to another, yet corroborated ours, and proved the riot out of their own mouths. The book was then given to a juſtice of the peace, who had formerly taken up Mr. *C*—— for preaching near *Stroud*, and had lately given many ſignal proofs that he was no friend to the Methodiſts. But he intending to ſpeak only about their characters, and the council and judge looking upon that as quite impertinent to the matter in hand, he was not admitted as an evidence. Upon this, his Lordſhip with great candor and impartiality ſummed up the evidence, and told the jury, "That "he thought they ſhould bring all the defendants in GUILTY; "for our evidences had ſufficiently proved the whole of the "information, and alſo, that the riot was premeditated."—He ſaid, "That, in his opinion, the chief of the defendants "evidence was incredible; and, that ſuppoſing the Methodiſts "were heterodox, (as perhaps they might be) it belonged to "the eccleſiaſtical government to call them to an account; "that they were ſubjects, and rioters were not to be their re-"formers." He alſo reminded them "of the dreadful conſe-"quences of rioting at any time, much more at ſuch a critical "time as this; that rioting was the forerunner of, and might "end in rebellion; that it was felony without benefit of clergy, "to pull down a Meeting-houſe; and for all as he knew, it was "high treaſon to pull down even a bawdy-houſe.—That this "information alſo came from the *King's-Bench*; that his Ma-"jeſty's juſtices there, thought they had ſufficient reaſon to "grant it; that the matters contained in it had been evidently "proved before them; and conſequently they ſhould bring in "all the defendants guilty." Upon this the jury were deſired to conſider of their verdict, and for a while there ſeemed to be

ſome

some little demur among them. His Lordship perceiving the cause of it, immediately informed them, "they had nothing to do with the damages, (that was to be referred to the *King's-Bench*) they were only to consider, whether the defendants were guilty or not." Whereupon in a few minutes they gave a verdict for the prosecutors, and brought in all the defendants *guilty* of the whole information lodged against them. I then retired to my lodgings, kneeled down, and with my friends gave thanks to our all-conquering *Emmanuel*. Afterwards I went to the inn, prayed and returned thanks with the witnesses, exhorted them to behave with meekness and humility to their adversaries; and after they had taken proper refreshment, I sent them home rejoicing. In the evening I preached on these words of the Psalmist, "By this I know that thou favourest me, since thou hast not suffered mine enemy to triumph over me." GOD was pleased to enlarge my heart much. I was very happy with my friends afterwards, and the next morning set out for *London*, where we had a blessed thanksgiving season, and from whence I take the first opportunity of sending you these particulars.

I remain, Sir, your very affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER DL.

To Mrs. D———.

Dear Madam, *London, March* 15, 1744.

SHALL I promise and not perform? GOD forbid! This comes in answer to your commands, and to inform you, that through him who has the hearts of all men in his hands, we came off more than conquerors, respecting our *Glocester* trial. The rioters were brought in guilty, and I suppose will have an execution issued out against them next Term. I hear they are hugely alarmed; but they know not that we intend to let them see what we could do, and then to forgive them. This troublesome affair being now over, I must prepare for my intended voyage. They tell me there is a ship going from *Portsmouth*. GOD willing, I purpose to take my passage in it, and though calls come to me from every quarter, yet I must once more visit my dear family in *America*. Some well-meaning

ing people threaten me with I know not what, if I embark at this time; but my abſence hath been ſo long and unexpected, that come what will, I am determined to proſecute my intended voyage; and therefore whether we meet any more in the fleſh, I truſt we ſhall meet in the world of ſpirits, where parting, weeping, and breaking of hearts will no more diſturb and try the affections of, dear Madam,

Yours in the dear *Emmanuel*,

G. W.

LETTER DLI.

To the Same.

My dear Friend, *Plymouth, June* 26, 1744.

YOU ſee by this where I am. Doubtleſs you'll wonder at the quick tranſition from *Portſmouth* to *Plymouth*. To the former I intended going when I wrote laſt; but juſt before I took leave of the dear tabernacle people, a meſſage was ſent to me, that the captain in which I was to ſail from thence, would not take me for fear of ſpoiling his ſailors. Some interpreted this as a call from providence not to embark at this time; but I enjoined them ſilence 'till I had taken my leave, and then, hearing of a maſt-ſhip that was going under convoy from *Plymouth*, I haſtened thither, and have taken a paſſage in the *Wilmington*, Capt. *Dalby*, bound to *Piſcataway*, in *New-England*. My firſt reception here was a little unpromiſing. A report being ſpread that I was come, a great number of people aſſembled upon the *Hoe*, (a large green for walks and diverſions) and ſomebody brought out a bear and a drum; but I did not come 'till the following evening, when, under pretence of a hue-and-cry, ſeveral broke into the room where I lodged at the inn, and diſturbed me very much. I then betook myſelf to private lodgings, and being gone to reſt, after preaching to a large congregation, and viſiting the *French* priſoners, the good woman of the houſe came and told me, that a well-dreſſed gentleman deſired to ſpeak with me. Imagining that it was ſome Nicodemite, I deſired he might be brought up. He came and ſat down by my bedſide, told me he was a lieutenant of a man of war, congratulated me on the ſucceſs of my miniſtry, and expreſſed himſelf much concerned for being de-

tained from hearing me. He then asked me, if I knew him. I answered, no. He replied, his name was *Cadogan*. I rejoined, that I had seen one Mr. *Cadogan*, who was formerly an officer at *Georgia*, about a fortnight ago at *Bristol*. Upon this, he immediately rose up, uttering the most abusive language, calling me *dog*, *rogue*, *villain*, &c. and beat me most unmercifully with his gold-headed cane. As you know I have not much natural courage, guess how surprized I was; being apprehensive that he intended to shoot or stab me, I underwent all the fears of a sudden violent death. But, as it providentially happened, my hostess and her daughter hearing me cry *murder*, rushed into the room and seized him by the collar; however, he immediately disengaged himself from them, and repeated his blows upon me. The cry of *murder* was repeated also, which putting him into some terror, he made towards the chamber-door, from whence the good woman pushed him down stairs. About the bottom of which, a second cry'd out, "Take courage, I am ready to help you;" accordingly, whilst the other was escaping, he rushed up, and finding one of the women coming down, took her by the heels and threw her upon the stairs, by which her back was almost broken. By this time the neighbourhood was alarmed. Unwilling to add to it, I desired the doors might be shut, and so betook myself to rest, not without reflecting, how indispensibly necessary it was for christians and christian ministers to be always upon their guard, and with what great propriety we are taught to pray in our excellent Litany, "from sudden," that is, "from violent and unprepared death, good LORD deliver us." That this may be our happy lot, is the hearty prayer of, dear Madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLII.

To the Same.

Plymouth, July 4, 1744.

SINCE my last, I have had some particular informations about the late odd adventure. It seems, that four gentlemen came to the house of one of my particular friends, kindly enquiring after me, and desired to know where I lodged, that

that they might come and pay their reſpects. He directed them. Soon afterwards I received a letter, informing me that the writer was a nephew to Mr. *S*———, an eminent attorney at *New-York*; that he had the pleaſure of ſupping with me at his uncle's houſe, and deſired my company to ſup with him and a few more friends at a tavern. I ſent him word, that it was not cuſtomary for me to ſup out at taverns, but ſhould be glad of his company, out of reſpect to his uncle, to eat a morſel with him at my lodgings. He came; we ſupped; and I obſerved that he frequently looked around him, and ſeemed very abſent; but having no ſuſpicion, I continued in converſation with him and my other friends, 'till we parted. This, I now find, was to have been the *aſſaſſin*; and being interrogated by his other companions on his return to the tavern about what he had done, he anſwered, that being uſed ſo civilly, he had not the heart to touch me. Upon which, as I am informed, the perſon who aſſaulted me laid a wager of ten guineas that he would do my buſineſs for me. Some ſay, that they took his ſword from him, which I ſuppoſe they did, for I only ſaw and felt the weight of his cane. The next morning, I was to expound at a private houſe, and then to ſet out for *Biddeford*. Some urged me to ſtay and proſecute; but being better employed, I went on my intended journey, was greatly bleſſed in preaching the everlaſting goſpel, and upon my return was well paid for what I had ſuffered: curioſity having led perhaps two thouſand more than ordinary to ſee and hear a man, that had like to have been murdered in his bed. Thus all things tend to the furtherance of the goſpel, and work together for good to thoſe that love GOD.

Thus ſatan thwarts, and men object,
And yet the thing they thwart, effect.

Leaving you to add an *Hallelujah*, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DLIII.

To Mr. S———.

Plymouth, July 21, 1744.

I Expected a line from you this morning; but I ſuppoſe you think we are gone. This day came in a privateer, which ſaw

saw the *Brest* squadron that has pursued two of our men of war, the *Dreadnought* and *Frederick*; so that had we sailed, we should in all probability have been carried into *France*. We are now to go under convoy of the grand fleet; many letters from our friends at *Portsmouth* inform us, that they are to sail on *Sunday*; but the wind hath not been very favourable, so we may yet stay some days longer. I never was so easy in this respect before. In one or two things I find my will reluctant; but JESUS will bring all things in subjection to him. I have been greatly refreshed this evening in preaching his blood. The congregations grow visibly every day. You will see the letter from *Kingsbridge*.—Last night many from the *Dock* came and guarded me home, being apprehensive there was a design against me. Without my knowledge, they insulted a man who intended to hurt me, for which I am sorry. We had a wonderful good time last night. O help me to praise my Saviour! My health is better. I hope you got to *London* well. Whether we sail or not, expect to hear again from dear, dear *J*———,

Ever, ever yours, &c.

G. W.

Open a door, which earth and hell
May strive to shut, but strive in vain;
Let thy word richly with them dwell,
And let their gracious fruit remain!

LETTER DLIV.

To Mr. T———.

My dear Friend, *Plymouth, July* 26, 1744.

ACCEPT some few hasty lines from one, who, properly speaking, may at present be stiled a prisoner at large. I am still here waiting for the promised convoy, and as I humbly hope, really waiting for the convoy of death to carry me to *Abraham*'s bosom. Could you think it? I have been preaching a confirmation sermon. Do you ask me where? In a Quaker's field. As I saw thousands flocked to the church to have the Bishop's hands imposed upon them, I thought it not improper to let them have a word of exhortation suitable

to

to the occaſion. I have alſo made an elopement to *Kingsbridge*, where I preached to many thouſands a few days ago. It was really a moſt ſolemn occaſion. A calling, inviting, perſuaſive gift was vouchſafed me. The hearts of the auditory ſeemed to be bowed as the heart of one man. Many tears were ſhed; but I was obliged to ride off as ſoon as my diſcourſe was ended, and to return hither in the night. But bleſſed be GOD, our night was as it were turned into day. I was accompanied by ſeveral old and new converts, and we converſed in ſome degree, as became perſons who ought to be employed every hour and every moment in trimming their lamps to be ready for the midnight cry, "Behold the bridegroom cometh!" As I am at preſent in this unſettled ſtate, continually engaged in preaching, and in talking privately with many, very many awakened ſouls, you and my other friends muſt be content with receiving ſhort, but I hope truly loving letters, from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLV.

To Mr. J—— S——,

Plymouth, July 27, 1744.

MATTERS go on better and better here. I begin to think myſelf in *London*. We have our regular morning meetings; and our LORD is pleaſed to grace them with his preſence. We are looking out for a place proper for a ſociety, and to expound in. People come daily to me, eſpecially from the *Dock*, under convictions. Some, I believe, have really cloſed with CHRIST; and here are ſeveral aged perſons perfectly made young again. We are juſt now entered upon our ſinging hours.—The ſouls come forward greatly in many reſpects, and friends are more and more hearty. Freſh news from *Kingsbridge* of ſouls being awakened; but I am kept cloſe priſoner on account of the convoy. Yeſterday morning we were called up at the *Dock*, very early, by a falſe alarm that our convoy was come. Many poor ſouls much lamented it. We haſtened hither, and I expounded upon our LORD's bidding his diſciples to watch. This waiting is much bleſſed to me. I am kept paſſive; notwithſtanding, ſatan attempts

to

to disturb me, but JESUS refreshes me, and overcomes him. I need not bid you to pray for me. Brother *C*—— must come into these parts soon.

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLVI.

To the Same.

Plymouth, July 29, 1744.

OUR LORD has been giving us blessings in drops, but now he is sending them in showers. This morning we have had a most precious meeting. Perhaps more good hath been done by that one sermon, than by all I have preached before. When GOD will work, who shall hinder? The wind is yet against us. Our LORD detains me here for wise reasons. Some persons, formerly prejudiced against me, have offered to give me a piece of ground surrounded with walls, for a society room. I believe that one will be built soon. Brother *C*—— must stay in the *West* some time. The LORD JESUS blesses me with health, and a sweet preaching spirit. O grace, grace! I will join with thee in praising it. Adieu, my friend. I am yours, in the bonds of eternal love, whilst

G. W.

LETTER DLVII.

To the Same.

My dear, dear Friend, *Plymouth, August* 3, 1744.

IT is past ten, or I would write you a long letter. Our convoy is come, and perhaps we may sail to-morrow. It is delightful to be here. We come from *Dock* in the evenings, in great companies, singing and praising GOD. Our parting there has been more awful than words can express. I shall have sailed before you can answer this.

I.

Eternal JESUS, *bless thy word,*
Be mindful of thy child;
Behold thy servant; be thou, LORD,
His helmet, sword, and shield.

Close

II.

Close by thy side him ever keep;
Still hold him in thy hand,
Till he and all thy ransom'd sheep,
Shall rest in their own land.

III.

The preachers and the people there,
Shall thee in fulness see;
Shall keep the long sabbatic year,
The feast of jubilee.

If we never meet again in this suffering world, GOD grant that we may ere long see each other in the heavenly paradise, where all tears shall be wiped from our eyes, and death, sin, and sorrow we shall know no more. Farewel.

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DLVIII.

To Mr. E———.

Plymouth, August 4, 1744.

My very dear Brother E———,

I Thank you for your last kind and loving letter, and as a token of my unfeigned love to you, I send you these few lines by way of answer, before I embark. Our convoy is now come, and in all probability we shall sail this day or to-morrow. I need not stir up my dear brother, and other dear souls with you, to pray for me and mine. I am quite easy about the trust, having put all things into the hands of the LORD JESUS, upon whose shoulders the government of all is placed. He will, he does order all things well: I bless him for it, and for what he has, and is doing among the soldiers. I desire you all to bless him for what he is doing in these parts; for preaching at the *Dock* is now like preaching at the *tabernacle*. It would delight your dear soul, my brother, to be a spectator of the people's seriousness. Last night we had a most awful and solemn parting; many wept sorely. After sermon we walked pleasantly over the fields, blessing and praising GOD. Our morning lectures are very delightful. O the

thousands that flock to the preaching of Christ's gospel! If brother *C*—— is in *London*, pray salute him in my name, and all the dear dear brethren and sisters, wishing you all thousands and millions of blessings, and earnestly intreating an interest in your prayers for me the chief of sinners. I subscribe myself, my dear brother *E* ——,

Yours most affectionately in the
most adorable Redeemer,
G. W.

Postscript. I must tell you one thing more. There is a ferry over to *Plymouth*; and the ferrymen, which were like *Levi* the publican at the receipt of custom, are now so much my friends, that they will take nothing of the multitude that come to hear me preach, saying, "GOD forbid that we should sell the word of GOD." O! the hearts of all men are in the hand of the LORD!

LETTER DLIX.

To Mr. ——.

On board the Wilmington, Oct. 20, 1744.

My dear Friend,

YOU know in what a poor state of health I was, when I embarked. The length, and seeming tediousness of the voyage, hath occasioned no small addition to the violent pain in my side; however, blessed be GOD, in a week or two after we sailed, we began to have a church in our ship. Two serious *New-England* friends finding how I was served at *Portsmouth*, came from thence to *Plymouth* in order to bear me company. We had regular public prayer morning and evening, frequent communion, and days of humiliation and fasting. Being time of war, and sailing out with near 150 ships, we had several convoys. Their taking leave of each other at their several appointed places, was striking: but ours was ordered to convoy us all the way. We were soon, and have been often alarmed. Once with the sight of a *Dutch* fleet, whom we took for an enemy; and again at the sight of Admiral *Balchen*, who rode by us receiving the obeisance of the surrounding ships, as though he was Lord of the whole ocean.

It was full six weeks ere we reached the *Western* Islands, off which it being calm weather, we continued floating for some days; during which interval we were like to suffer much damage. The wind having brisked up a little, and orders being given for tacking about, one of the ships, I know not by what accident, having missed her stays, in turning, came directly upon us; I happened at that time to be singing a hymn upon deck with my little family, and thinking it best to keep there to receive the shock, I had the opportunity of seeing what passed. The ship struck her mainsail into our bowsprit, but our ship being of a large, and theirs of a smaller size, our hull received but little damage, whilst theirs received such a blow, that when disentangled from us, they were immediately apprehensive of sinking. As they again passed by us, when we expected another touch, their cries and groans were awful. O how eagerly did they cry for some signal to be given! It was done. A little after that, we came up with the convoy, and our captain informed them of what had happened. The answer was, "This is your praying, and be damned to ye." With many expressions of the like nature. This, I must own, shocked me more than the striking of the ships. I called my friends together, and broke out into these words in prayer: "GOD of the sea and GOD of the dry land! This is a night of rebuke and blasphemy: shew thyself, O GOD, and take us under thy own immediate protection; be thou our convoy, and make a difference between those that fear thee and those that fear thee not!" The disabled ship was taken into tow. Next morning they were saluted in like manner as the night before, and orders were given us to follow our convoy into *Fial*; but on a sudden a violent euroclydon arose, which not only prevented our going into *Fial*, but battered and drove away our convoy, so that we saw him no more all the voyage. For my own part, I thought it no loss; we sailed very comfortably on, 'till we were again alarmed with the sight of two ships, making up to us with all the sail they could well croud, and which our captain took to be enemies. The preparations for an engagement, to me, who you know am naturally a coward, were formidable. Guns mounting, chains put about the masts, every thing taken out of the great cabin, hammocks put about the sides of the ship, and all, except myself, seemed

ready for fire and ſmoke. My wife, after having dreſſed herſelf to prepare for all events, ſet about making cartridges, whilſt the huſband wanted to go into the holes of the ſhip, hearing that was the chaplain's uſual place. I went, but not liking my ſituation, and being deſired by one of my *New-England* friends to ſay ſomething to animate the men, I crept up on deck, and for the firſt time of my life beat up to arms by a warm exhortation. The men ſeemed pleaſed, the apprehended enemy approached, but upon nearer view we found them not only to be friends, but the two maſts ſhips that were going with us under the ſame convoy. This pleaſed us all. The captain taking this opportunity to clean the cabin, ſaid, "After all, this is the beſt fighting:" with which you may be ſure I readily concurred, praying, and believing at the ſame time, that all our various conflicts with ſpiritual enemies might, and would under the conduct of the all-conquering captain of our ſalvation, at laſt terminate in a thorough cleanſing, and an eternal purification of the defiled cabin of our hearts. Committing you to his almighty guidance and protection, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLX.

To Mr. ———.

York (*New-England*,) *Oct.* 30, 1744.

Dear Friend,

DON'T judge me for not writing more frequent. It was impracticable. I have been laid on a bed of ſickneſs, and was, in the apprehenſion of myſelf and others, at the very mouth of the heavenly harbour; but as that more than once hath been the caſe, I am putting out to ſea again. O who would but follow the Redeemer blindfold? No convoy like him who is the GOD of the ſea and the GOD of the dry land. After eleven weeks paſſage he hath brought us hither, but through my impatience and imprudence I and my friends were like to ſuffer loſs. A little ſmack coming up to us juſt as we were near port, and being told that ſhe would be in ſeveral hours before the ſhip, I, with others in complaiſance to me, though

though perſuaded to the contrary, ventured in her. It ſoon grew dark, our pilots miſſed their inlet and we were toſſed about all night. My pain was great, having had for ſome time a nervous cholic, and I was ſo hungry that I could have gnawed the very boards. The fiſhermen had nothing but a few potatoes, of which I partook moſt eagerly; but withal, thought my ſituation to be like the poor diſciples, who were rowing and toiling all night, when the wind was contrary. About the fourth watch of the night, deliverance came; the men diſcovered the proper inlet; but what paſſed before our arrival is ſomewhat ſtriking to me. One of my friends, on aſking what news, was anſwered, that the *New-England* people were turned *new lights*; which with us you know is a term for *heterodoxy*; but however, added the man, not knowing that I was lying down at his elbow, they are all exulting one Mr. *Whitefield*; and my ſiſter, and a great company of her ſtamp, were yeſterday all praying for his ſafe arrival. This made me to take courage. I continued undiſcovered; and in a few hours, in anſwer I truſt to *new light prayers*, we arrived ſafe at *York*, a few miles off *Piſcataway*, the place to which we were bound.—But you muſt excuſe enlarging; as I recover ſtrength you ſhall hear again from

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXI.

To Mr. ———.

Dear Sir, *York, Nov.* 6, 1744.

HOW thankful ought I to be to him, whoſe mercy endureth for ever! GOD has commanded a phyſician (once a notorious deiſt, but through grace converted at my laſt viſit in *New-England*) to receive me here. Worthy Colonel *P*——, who lives at the very mouth of the harbour, on ſeeing our ſhip, went with ſome other friends in his own boat to invite and conduct me to his princely habitation. But GOD appointed otherwiſe. In about half an hour after my arrival, I was put to bed, racked with a nervous cholic, and convulſed from the waſte down to my toes. A total convulſion was immediately apprehended.

My wife and friends ſtood weeping by,
In tears reſolv'd to ſee me die.

Filled with divine conſolation, I begged them not to be ſhocked. My Saviour whiſpered that all was well, and therefore I deſired them not to be ſurprized if I ſhould be totally convulſed, or be ſuffered in a delirium to ſpeak things that were wrong. Many, many of GOD's deareſt children, through the infirmities which crazy conſtitutions more eſpecially are liable to, have been called to drink ſuch a bitter cup before me. But an all-compaſſionate Redeemer diſappointed our fears, and exceeded our ſtrongeſt expectations. Apprehended convulſions were kept off; and though I was ſo weak as not to be able to bear the ſound of a tread of the foot, or the voice of friends who came to ſee and pray with me, yet my heart was kept in perfect peace. After undergoing, for about four days, fomentations and exerciſes of different kinds, by having my feet put into warm water, &c. nature was relieved, and what I had taken four days before came away hardly diſcoloured. After this, whilſt carried about by my tender nurſe and a ſervant, ſtill racked with pain, and like an helpleſs child, I could only ſay, "Look and learn what a poor creature I am." The ſcene affects me yet. May it never be forgotten! I muſt retire, and leave enlarging to another opportunity. In the mean while, aſſure yourſelf of my being, though leſs than the leaſt of all,

Yours, &c.
G. W.

LETTER DLXII.

To Mr. ———.

Portſmouth, (New-England) Nov. 16, 1744.

My dear Friend,

AS I promiſed, I muſt employ a little of my new-gained ſtrength in writing to you. Soon after I began to recover, good old Mr. *M*—— the miniſter of *York*, who feared the LORD greatly from his youth, came to and accoſted me thus: "Sir, you are firſt welcome to *America*; ſecondly, to *New-England*; thirdly, to all the faithful miniſters in *New-England*;

England; fourthly, to all the good people in *New-England*; fifthly, to all the good people of *York*; and sixthly and lastly, to me, dear Sir, less than the least of all." He then urged me to give them a sermon. Too forward to reingage in my old delightful work, I complied, notwithstanding at the same time word had been sent to *Boston* that I was dying; upon which, my dear *Gaius* and a beloved physician came, either to take care of me, or attend my funeral; but to their great surprize they found me in the pulpit. GOD was with me; but imprudently going over the ferry to *Portsmouth*, I caught cold, immediately relapsed, and was taken, as every one thought, with death, in my dear friend Mr. *Sherburne*'s house. My pains returned; but what gave me most concern was, that notice had been given of my being to preach the next evening. A great number of ministers and people flocked to hear; three physicians attended me, and Colonel *Pepperel* with many others were so kind as to pay me a visit and sympathize with me. GOD dealt so bountifully with me, that I was enabled to tell the Colonel in particular, from heart-experience, that I felt a divine life distinct from my animal life, which made me as it were to laugh at pain; this made me determine to get up and preach, though the General and all had left me, and the person appointed to lecture in my stead was just going out of the house. My dear *York* physician was then about to administer a medicine. I on a sudden cried, "Doctor, my pains are suspended: by the help of GOD I'll go and preach, and then come home and die." With some difficulty I reached the pulpit. All looked quite surprized, as though they saw one rose from the dead. Indeed, I was as pale as death, and told them "they must look upon me as a dying man, that I came to bear my dying testimony to the truths I had formerly preached amongst them, and to the invisible realities of another world." Nature (by my continuing an hour in my discourse) was almost quite exhausted; but O what life! what power spread all around! All seemed to be melted, and were drowned in tears. The cry after me, when I left the pulpit, was like the cry of sincere mourners when attending the funeral of a dear departed friend. Upon my coming home, I was laid on a bed upon the ground near the fire, and I heard them say, "He is gone;" but still you find by this

I am alive, and if ſpared to be made inſtrumental in making any poor dead ſoul alive to GOD, I ſhall rejoice that the all-wiſe Redeemer has kept out of heaven a little longer,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXIII.

To Mr. ———.

My dear Friend, *Boſton, Jan.* 18, 1745.

BY this time I ſuppoſe you have heard, by your brother's letter, how good old Mr. *Moody*, in his honeſt way, ſaid, I was welcome to all the faithful miniſters in *New-England.* But the good old man judged too much by his own honeſt feelings. You ſee I am now at *Boſton*, whither I was brought from *Piſcataway* in a coach and four. The joy with which I was received by the common people, cannot well be deſcribed; but many of the miniſters how ſhy? — And how different from what once they were? When laſt in *Boſton*, governor *Belcher* was in the chair: then, *reges ad exemplum, totus componitur orbis*, he honoured me with great honour, and the clergy paid the nod, and obeyed. In many I then perceived it was quite forced, and I think when at his table I whiſpered to ſome and ſaid, if ever I came again, many of thoſe who now ſeem extremely civil, will turn out my open and avowed enemies. The event has proved, that in this reſpect I have been no falſe prophet. You know where it is written, "There aroſe a king, who knew not *Joſeph.*" Freed therefore from their former reſtraint, many have appeared in *puris naturalibus.* Some occaſions of offence had undoubtedly been given whilſt I was here and preached up and down the country. —Nothing however appeared but a pure, divine power working upon, converting, and transforming people's hearts, of all ranks, without any extraordinary phænomena attending it. Good Mr. *T*—— ſucceeded me; numbers ſucceeded him. Lecture upon lecture were ſet up in various places; one miniſter called to another, to help drag the goſpel net; and by all the accounts that I can have from private information, or good Mr. *Prince*'s weekly hiſtory, which I ſend you with this, one would have imagined the millennium was coming indeed.

But

But you know, in this mixed ſtate of things, wild-fire will neceſſarily blend itſelf with the pure fire that comes from GOD's altar. This the enemy long waited for; at laſt it broke out and ſpread itſelf; and it muſt be confeſſed, through the inſtrumentality of many good ſouls both among clergy and laity, who for a while miſtaking fancy for faith, and imagination for revelation, were guilty of great imprudence. What theſe were, I have not time now to particularize; I can only inform you, that all is laid to me as being the *primum mobile*, though there was not ſo much as the appearance of any thing of this nature when I left *New-England* laſt. But, maugre all, my poor labours are yet attended with the uſual bleſſings, and therefore I muſt entreat you as uſual to pray and give thanks in behalf of

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXIV.

To Mr. ———.

My dear Friend, *Boſton, Feb.* 6, 1745.

I Remember you once told me, that you heard one of the good old *Puritans*, who went over to *New-England*, wrote back again, that he went from *Old-England* to avoid the Lord Biſhops, and came to *New-England* to get under the Lord Brethren. Well is it at preſent that they are the Lord Brethren; for finding ſome of their paſtors without cauſe ſhy of me, they have paſſed votes of invitation for me to preach in the pulpits, and ſome time ago prevailed upon me, as they heard I had done in *Scotland*, to ſet up a lecture at ſix o'clock in the morning. Not expecting a very great auditory, I opened a lecture in one of the ſmalleſt meetings, upon theſe words, "And they came early in the morning to hear him;" but how was I diſappointed? Such great numbers flocked to hear, that I was obliged for the future to make uſe of two of their very largeſt places of worſhip, where I believe ſeldom leſs than two or three thouſand attentive hearers hung as it were upon me, to hear the word preached. I began with the firſt of *Geneſis*, and have now lectured in order, till I am almoſt come to the ſtory of *Abraham* ſending his ſervant to fetch a wife

wife for his ſon *Iſaac*. Many I truſt have been made willing to ſay, "I will go with the GOD-man, even *Iſaac*'s GOD." It is impoſſible to deſcribe the eagerneſs and punctuality of theſe early viſitants. To ſee ſo many hundreds of both ſexes neatly dreſſed, walking or riding ſo early along the ſtreets to get food for their ſouls, has feaſted my own heart. The *Pharaohs* who uſed to ſay, "Ye are idle, ye are idle," now are ſtruck dumb: for lecture, and family prayer, and breakfaſt, are now over in many houſes before the ſun is ſuffered to come into others windows; and it is now become almoſt a common proverb, "That between *Tar-water*, and *early riſing*, the phyſicians will have no buſineſs." One morning the croud was ſo great, that I was obliged to go in at the window. The high ſheriff, who was once moſt forward in perſecuting good Mr. *D——t*, being a little convinced under the word, accompanied me, and when he put his head into the window after me, the people were ready to cry out, "Is *Saul* alſo among the prophets?" Hoping hereafter to ſend you and other friends a further account of many ſuch real inſtances of all-conquering grace, I ſubſcribe myſelf

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXV.

To Mr. A——.

Ipſwich, Feb. 7, 1745.

AND how does my very dear brother *A——?* I heard by ſome friend lately that he was well.—I hope this will find him yet better, and more and more happy in the ever-lovely, ever-loving JESUS.—I ſuppoſe you have heard of his great goodneſs to me and mine.—We have been carried through various trials; and can ſet up our *Ebenezer*, ſaying, "Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."—I cannot help thinking but that the LORD JESUS is about to triumph glorioufly.—He is pleaſed to bear me as on eagles wings, and cauſes both ſinners and ſaints to hear his voice.—I am kept very happy, and ſee more and more of the myſtery of iniquity that lies in my heart. I rejoice in knowing that the blood of JESUS will cleanſe me from all.—I long to hear how it is with the dear

lambs

lambs in *Glouceſterſhire*.—I commit you and them to the care of the compaſſionate biſhop and ſhepherd of ſouls; and ſubſcribe myſelf, my dear man,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

P. S. My dear wife joins in ſending cordial ſalutations to you, yours, and all.

LETTER DLXVI.

To Mrs. ——.

Dear Madam, *Boſton, Feb.* 17, 1745.

THIS leaves me juſt retired from my ſpiritual levee. Our good friend Mr. *S*—— tells me, while I am here he looks upon his houſe not as his own, but mine. His parlour is large, and I ſit there to receive goſpel viſitants. Good Mr. *P*—— told me ſome time ago, that I ſhould ſhortly be favoured with the company of a very penſive and uncommon perſon; a man of good parts, ready wit, and lively imagination, and who had made it his buſineſs, in order to furniſh matter for preaching over a bottle, to come and hear, and then carry away ſcraps of my ſermons, which it ſeems were to ſerve as texts or theſes for his tavern harangues. A few nights ago he came for this purpoſe to Doctor *S*——'s meeting; upon my coming in, he crouded after amongſt the people, and having got ſufficient matter to work upon as he thought, attempted to go out; but being pent in on every ſide, he found his endeavours fruitleſs. Obliged thus to ſtay, and looking up to me, waiting for ſome freſh matter for ridicule, GOD was pleaſed to prick him to the heart. He came to Mr. *P*—— full of horror, confeſſed his crimes, and longed to aſk my pardon, but was afraid to ſee me. Mr. *P*—— encouraged him to venture. This morning hearing ſomebody knock at the parlour door, I aroſe, and upon opening the door, by the paleneſs, penſiveneſs, and horror of his countenance, gueſſed I had met with the perſon of whom Mr. *P*—— had apprized me. Immediately he cried with a low but plaintive voice, "Sir, can you forgive me?" I ſmiled and ſaid, "Yes, Sir, very readily." Indeed, replied he, Sir, you cannot when I tell you all. I then aſked him to ſit down; and judging that

that he had sufficiently felt the lashes of the law, I preached to him the gospel. That it may be the power of GOD through faith unto his eternal salvation, you will join in praying, dear madam, with

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXVII.

To Mrs. ——.

My dear Friend, *Boston, Feb.* 19, 1745.

TEMPORA mutantur; a confederacy, a confederacy! The clergy, amongst whom are a few mistaken, misinformed good old men, are publishing halfpenny testimonials against me. Even the president, professors, and tutors of *Hertford* college, where I was, as you know, some few years ago received with so much uncommon respect, have joined the confederacy. Good Mr. *C*——, that venerable, truly primitive, good old Puritan, as I am informed, had many of these testimonials brought him, in order to judge of their importance. He took them, weighed them in his hand, and having read them before, returned them immediately, saying, "They did not weigh much." However, I thank GOD, "out of the eater hath come forth meat." They have done me real service. Some unguarded expressions, in the heat of less experienced youth, I certainly did drop. I was much too precipitate in hearkening to, and publishing private informations, and thereby *Peter*-like cut too many ears off: but this is my comfort, when we mean well, though no thanks to our own too forward though well-meant zeal, JESUS, that almighty, all-compassionate physician, will heal and restore the ears again. Some good friends on my side the question are publishing testimonials in my favour. Thus you see what a militant state we are in at present. *Laudatur ab eis, culpatur ab illis.* Amidst all, the word runs and is glorified, and many are so enraged at the treatment I meet with, that they came to me lately, assuring me, that if I'll consent, they will erect in a few weeks time, the outside of the largest place of worship that was ever seen in *America:* but you know ceiled houses were never my aim. I therefore thanked them for, but

at

at the same time begged leave to refuse the accepting of their kind offer. How or when the present storm will subside, for subside I am persuaded it will, is as yet uncertain. I can only, at present, earnestly beg the continuance of your prayers, that whilst tossing in this floating ark I may be purged of some of my corruptions, and be kept in good temper towards those who I believe really think they do GOD's service in opposing, dear Madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXVIII.

Piscataqua, March 6, 1745.

My very dear, dear J.

THIS comes by Captain *Darling*. I hear from *Boston*, a bookseller has got the books you sent over. I have sent a letter to Doctor *C*——, with my answer to *Harvard* college, which I would have you print, with their testimony, (which is an original :) and my answer to the second part of the observation and remarks upon the charge of the Bishop of *L*——. May JESUS give them his blessing. I would have them printed so as to be sold cheap : you may collect or print them severally as you will. I cannot yet get time to prepare my sermons, or the other part of my life, for the press. I am writing another *New-England* journal, which I will send when I leave it; when that will be, I know not. I expect Mr. *Habersham* every hour. *W*—— *N*—— and *J*—— are got safe to *Charles-Town*. I heard from friends there last week. *America*, I am afraid, begins to be too dear to me. The LORD smiles upon me and mine, and makes us very happy in himself, and happy in one another. Here is a very large field of action. A very fine and effectual door is opened; my bodily strength is recovered, and my soul more than ever in love with a crucified JESUS. I could write more to you and other dear friends, but if I do, I shall neglect things of a more public and immediate concern; neither can my dear wife write, because she is fully employed in copying my letters. However, we do not forget our dear *London* and *English* friends. We pray for them often, and sometimes cannot help wishing some more may come

come over into this delightful wilderneſs; it is a fruitful field. JESUS waters it with his bleſſings. We expect ſiſter *W*——. Here are wars and rumours of wars, on this, as well as your ſide of the water. But JESUS's diſciples may be at peace. O that this may find thy dear heart quite ſwallowed up in his amazing love! Be pleaſed to remember us moſt tenderly to *all*, and loſe no opportunity of ſending a line in any *American* ſhips. So, my very dear dear man, I reſt

Thy very affectionate happy friend,
and ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DLXIX.

To Mr. C——.

Piſcataqua, March 6, 1745.

My very dear Brother C——,

IT gives me ſome concern, that I cannot ſend thee a long letter, but at preſent I have ſo many things of importance before me, which muſt be immediately diſpatched, that I deſire others to excuſe me too. I do not forget any of you as I know of, and, GOD willing, ſhall redeem every opportunity of ſending to *England*. Our Saviour wonderfully ſmiles on us here; ſeveral years work I think lies before me. The LORD helps me to preach with the demonſtration of the ſpirit and with power, my ſtrength is daily renewed, and my wife and I go on like two happy pilgrims, leaning upon our beloved. O help us to adore and praiſe free grace. We ſalute all the conference and truſtees, and every particular choir, and the ſocieties in every place, "Grace, mercy and peace be multiplied upon them, from GOD our father, and from the LORD JESUS CHRIST." To his tender mercy do I commit thee and them, and am, my very dear *C*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

P. S. My dear wife cordially ſalutes you and all.

LETTER

LETTER DLXX.

To Mr. J. S. in London.

Piſcataqua, March 12, 1745.

I Wrote to you laſt week, and have ſent you by Capt. *Darling* two letters, and a box. This comes by a young gentleman that expects to return to *South-Carolina* by *Auguſt* next. By him I ſend you one of each ſort of the pamphlets that I have publiſhed here. I would have them ſent to *Scotland* as ſoon as may be. My wife has ſent you a few lines in one of my letters. We are more than happy! O grace! grace!—I truſt it is ſo with you. *America* is pleaſanter and pleaſanter every day. I expect Mr. *Haberſham* hourly. The door for preaching opens wider and wider. O my dear friend, I could tell thee what would rejoice thy heart, waſt thou here. But I have little time to write. I am now going to prepare my ſermons for the preſs: And am alſo writing another journal. You ſhall have them the firſt opportunity. Our tender love awaits all dear friends. As often as poſſible, you and others ſhall hear from, my dear friend, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DLXXI.

On board Capt. Grant, bound from Charles-Town to Philadelphia, May 2, 1745.

My very dear, dear Brother H——,

HOW do you find your heart theſe trying, ſifting, purging times? I hope you are enabled to joy in GOD, and are made more than conqueror through his love. It has given me ſome concern that I could not write to you oftner: but JESUS knows my heart has been with you; and I have not failed to pray for the preſervation of the toſſed ark. *Antinominaniſm*, I find, begins to ſhew its head and ſtalk abroad: may the glorious Redeemer cauſe it to hide its head again, and prevent his children's ſpirits being imbittered againſt each other. I am glad to hear the *Welſh* brethren continue ſteady: and that amongſt our *Engliſh* friends, *Antinomianiſm* ſeems only to be ſpeculative; this is a great evil, but not ſo great as when it affects the practice, and leads the people of GOD unwarily

into

into licentiousness. The late outward troubles, I hope will do good, and put a stop to the many disputes and various sects which, like so many hydra's, always spring up when the LORD suffers false principles to abound. I expect to hear that JESUS has made thee immoveable like a wall of brass, bold as a lion, but meek as a lamb. Blessed be his name, he continues to be very kind to us: we have been six months in these parts, and are now going northwards for the summer season. The Orphan-house is in a promising way. My temporal affairs begin to be settled; and I am blessed substantially to many souls. JESUS, I trust, has given me a more gospel-heart; and causes many of my professed most imbittered enemies to be at peace with me. I know you will help me to praise him, and beg him to continue to stand by a poor unworthy creature, who simply desires to spend and be spent for the good of precious and immortal souls. You'll remember me to your dear wife, and all our *Welsh* brethren, in the most endearing manner: we frequently talk of, and pray for them; and don't despair of seeing them once more in the flesh. My dear wife loves them exceedingly, and warms her heart often by reflecting on past times. Wishing that grace, mercy, and peace may be multiplied upon you all, I subscribe myself, my very dear brother,

Ever, ever thine in JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXII.

To Mrs. ———.

Dear Madam, *Boston, July* 29, 1745.

YOU will be surprized to hear that a messenger of the prince of peace, especially such a weak creature as I am, should beat up to arms. No doubt you have judged me, as well you may; but providence seemed to force me to it. You have now heard of the *Cape-Breton* expedition, which was carried on and finished with the greatest secrecy and expedition here, before it could be scarcely known to you at home. Worthy Colonel *P*——— was fixed upon to command. The day before he accepted of the commission, he purposed to dine with me to ask my advice. I told him, "that I hoped if he "did undertake it, he would beg of the LORD GOD of armies

"to give him a single eye; that the means proposed to take "*Louisburgh*, in the eye of human reason, were no more ade- "quate to the end, than the sounding of rams-horns to blow "down *Jericho*; that the eyes of all would be upon him; and if "he should not succeed in the intended enterprize, the widows "and orphans of the slain soldiers would be like lions robbed "of their whelps; but if it pleased GOD to give him success, "envy would not suffer him to take the glory, and therefore "he should take great care that his views were disinterested, "and then I doubted not, if providence really called him, he "would find his strength proportioned to the day, and would "return more than conqueror." He thanked me, and his Lady having given her free consent, he commenced general. The sound now was to arms! to arms! new recruits were eagerly sought after, and my worthy friend Mr. *S*—— was appointed one of the commissaries. Being at his house, he told me one evening that he was preparing the flag, and that I must give him a motto, and that the people must know it too. I absolutely refused, urging that it would be acting out of character; he replied, that the expedition, he believed, was of GOD, and that if I did not encourage it, many of the serious people would not inlist. I still refused; he desired me to consider, and sleep upon it, and to give him my answer in the morning. I retired, I prayed, I slept; and upon his renewing his request in the morning, I told him, that since he was so urgent, and as I did not know but divine providence might intend to give us *Louisburgh*; therefore he might take this motto. *Nil desperandum Christo duce.* Upon this, great numbers inlisted, and before their embarkation, their officers desired me to give them a sermon: I preached from these words: "As many as were distressed, as many as were discontented, as many as were in debt, came to *David*, and he became a captain over them." Officers, soldiers, and others attended. I spiritualized the subject, and told them how distressed sinners came to JESUS CHRIST the Son of *David*; and in my application exhorted the soldiers to behave like the soldiers of *David*, and the officers to act like *David*'s worthies; then, I made no manner of doubt, but we should receive good news from *Cape-Breton*. After this, I preached to the general himself, who asked me if I would not be one of his chaplains: I told him, "I should

" think it an honour, but believed, as I generally preached " three times a day in various places to large congregations, " I could do my King my country, and my GOD, more ser- " vice, by ſtirring up the people to pray, and thereby ſtrength- " en his and his ſoldiers hands." Through divine grace, I was enabled to perſiſt in this practice for ſome weeks; but at laſt news arrived that the caſe was deſperate. Letter upon letter came from one officer and another to thoſe who planned this expedition, and did not know the ſtrength of the fortreſs. I ſmiled, and told my friends, that I believed now we ſhould have *Louiſburgh*;—that all having confeſſed their helpleſsneſs, GOD would now reveal his arm, and make our extremity his opportunity. I was not diſappointed of my hope; for one day having taken a weeping leave of dear *Boſton*, and being about to preach a few miles out of the town, news was brought that *Louiſburgh* was taken. Numbers flocked with great joy from all quarters, and I immediately preached to them a thankſgiving ſermon from theſe words: " By this I know that thou favoureſt me, ſince thou haſt not permitted mine enemies to triumph over me." Here ends, dear Madam, my beating to arms. It is left to you, to judge as you pleaſe of, dear Madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

Poſtſcript. I forgot to tell you, to the honour of worthy Madam *P*——, that during the time of the expedition, at her deſire, I preached in the General's houſe, and took the liberty before ſermon, to aſk her, how ſhe came to give up the General? She anſwered, " That it was GOD who enabled her " to do it for his glory, and her country's good, and that now " the General was gone, ſhe had the pleaſing reflection, that " thro' divine mercy, home had never been made ſo diſagree- " able to him by her conduct, as to make him wiſh to be gone."

LETTER DLXXIII.

To Mrs. L——.

Philadelphia, Auguſt 26, 1746.

Honoured Mother,

WHETHER your affections are abated to me or not, (which one would imagine by your not writing in

two years) yet duty, love, and gratitude oblige me to write to her, to whom, under GOD, I owe my being brought into the world. I am glad to find by a letter from Mr. *Syms*, dated laſt *March*, that you was well, at leaſt I hoped ſo, becauſe I heard nothing to the contrary. May the Father of mercies, and GOD of all conſolation, grant that your latter end may greatly increaſe! Whether you ever ſee me or not any more, you need not be anxious concerning me.—That GOD whom I ſerve in the goſpel of his dear Son, is exceeding good and gracious to me and mine. We have all things pertaining to life and godlineſs. Many offers are daily made me; but as yet the LORD JESUS keeps me from catching at the golden bait. Favour is given to me in the ſight of the rich and great, and the door for my uſefulneſs opens wider and wider. I love to range in the *American* woods, and ſometimes think I ſhall never return to *England* any more. I was never better in health, take all together. My dear wife would ſend you a few lines, but ſhe is weak by reaſon of a miſcarriage about four days ago. I ſend you moſt dutiful reſpects for her; and praying the LORD of all Lords continually to lift up the light of his bleſſed countenance upon your dear ſoul, I ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured mother,

Your moſt dutiful, though unworthy ſon,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. Z——.

Bohemia, (Maryland) Oct. 8, 1746.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I Took the freedom ſome months ago to ſend you a letter, wherein was incloſed a letter for Profeſſor *Frank*, both which I hope came ſafe to hand, and were accepted in love. Since that, I have been travelling and ranging the woods, in the ſervice of the beſt of Maſters, who makes his work more pleaſant to me every day. I truſt that the time for favouring this and the neighbouring ſouthern provinces is come. Every where almoſt, the door is opened for preaching; great numbers flock to hear, and the power of an aſcended Saviour attends the word. It is ſurprizing, how the LORD cauſes pre-

judices to subside, and makes my formerly most bitter enemies to be at peace with me. O Rev. Sir, help me to praise him, whose mercy endureth for ever! I doubt not but he has been wonderfully good to you, and supports you under a feeble tottering tabernacle. The prayers of me and mine are always for you, because we honour and love you in our common head, the blessed JESUS. Be pleased, when you write, to present my most dutiful and affectionate respects to the Professor, and Mr. *Ulspurgher*. I have had some sweet times with several of the *Lutheran* ministers at *Philadelphia*. I love them dearly. Mr. *Driesler* does bravely at *Frederica*. Mr. *Boltzius* and his collegue I hear are well. By and by, I trust, *Georgia* will lift up its drooping head.—All is well at the Orphan-house. I am, Rev. and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, though unworthy younger brother and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXV.

To Mr. H——— H———.

Anapolis, (Maryland,) Nov. 8, 1746.

My very dear, dear Brother,

I Just now received a wished-for packet from *England*, in which are two or three letters from you. My dear fellow pilgrim will exceedingly rejoice at the receipt of them. She is gone forward with a *Boston* young lady towards *Georgia*.—I hear they traverse the woods bravely.—I wrote to you very lately.—I can only send you a few loving lines now.—I am just setting out.—Lately I have been in seven counties in *Maryland*, and preached with abundant success.—Our LORD gives me health, and his work (O free grace!) prospers in my unworthy hands. I shall consider of the calls sent me to return to my native country.—My tender love to all.—I am, my very dear man,

Ever yours whilst

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DLXXVI.

To a friend at the Tabernacle, London.

Anapolis, November 8, 1746.

My very dear Brother,

JUST now I have received your kind letter with some others, but have not time to read them all, being just setting out from this place. I shall consider of your *loud call*, and pray our LORD to direct me.—Poor *English* friends! May JESUS heal their divisions! Courage, my dear brother—Land is in sight—Ere long we shall sail into the haven of eternal rest.—The harvest is great here. I have lately been in seven counties in *Maryland*, and preached to great congregations of people with great power.—I have now a journey of seven hundred miles before me.—My tender love to all. GOD willing, you shall hear again shortly from,

Ever yours in our triumphant JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER. DLXXVII.

To Mr. H—— H——.

Hanover county, (Virginia) Nov. 16, 1746.

My very dear Brother,

ABOUT a week ago I had the pleasure of receiving a long letter from you, which I immediately answered at *Anapolis*.—That you wrote to my dear wife is gone to her, and I suppose will rejoice her exceedingly.—She is well, and enjoys much of GOD.—I was glad to find that the *Tabernacle* was given up to your care.—Whether its breaches are yet repaired, or whether it be entirely fallen down, I know not.—I suppose when I come to *England*, I shall have all to begin again.—It is the LORD, let him do what seemeth him good.—The account of dear brother *H*——'s trial affected me much. I rejoice that he comes bright out of the furnace of affliction. I salute him and all my dear friends most tenderly.—Sometimes affection works strong, and I almost determine to come over.—But the cloud does not seem to move that way as yet.—However, my eyes are to the LORD.—Whenever his provi-

dence points out the way, the language of my heart is, "Lo I come."—I wrote to brother *H*—— *J*—— and *A*—— lately, and ſince have received their kind letters.—I have lately been in ſeven counties in *Maryland*, and ere long think to preach in as many in this province.—There is a ſweet ſtirring among the dry bones.—I have a thouſand tender things to ſay, but time will not permit.—Well, my dear dear man, heaven is at hand;—there we ſhall have talk enough.—O let us take as many ſouls with us to that bleſſed place as we can.—Bleſſed be GOD, my ſoul ſprings with freſh deſires to hunt after poor ſtraying ſheep, which JESUS has purchaſed with his dear heart's blood.—O that I may begin now to do ſomething for him, who hath done and ſuffered ſo much for me! But I can no more.—I am loſt, I am quite overcome when I think of this.—LORD, I believe and worſhip!—Pray remember me to *all* moſt tenderly.—Remember me before the LORD as the *chief of ſinners*, but, my very dear brother,

Ever, ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXVIII.

To a friend in London.

My dear Brother, *Bethesda, Dec.* 24, 1746.

I Thank you heartily for your very kind letter, which I now ſnatch a few moments to anſwer. The account you gave of things, made me mourn that they were in ſo bad a ſituation, and at the ſame time I could not help rejoicing they were no worſe: You and all that attended on my preaching, and had opportunities to converſe with me privately, cannot be ignorant how many hints I gave of what has happened. It might have been foreſeen and ſpoken of without a ſpirit of prophecy, and conſequently did not ſo much ſurprize me when I found it came to paſs; but I truſt the ſtorm is now blown over, and that the little flock will enjoy a ſweet calm. O that your eyes may be looking towards and waiting on the bleſſed JESUS: from him alone can come your ſalvation, he will be better to you than a thouſand *Whitefields*.—I am afraid you are too deſirous of having me with you; and indeed I long to ſee you and my other dear chriſtian friends, but *America* ſeems to be

my

my scene of action for some time. The harvest is great in many places, and the labourers are very few. I am resolved in the strength of JESUS to range more and more; hunting for souls is a delightful work, and I am ashamed that I do no more. O my dear man, pray for me; indeed I do for you and yours.—I am glad the LORD has appeared for you; he never fails those that put their trust in him; only remember, "In the world, and yet not *of* it," is the real christian's motto.—That JESUS may continually lift up the light of his blessed countenance upon you, and give you and yours all peace and joy in believing, is the earnest prayer of, my dear man,

Your very affectionate friend,
and servant for JESUS sake,
G. W.

P. S. My tender tender love to all enquiring friends; my dear yoke-fellow joins heartily: we are happy in JESUS, and happy in one another.

LETTER DLXXIX.

My dear Brother, *Bethesda, Dec.* 24, 1746.

I Must not let your kind letter which I received a few days ago lie long unanswered. And now what shall I say? why that I would have you comfort yourself with this promise, "That all things shall work (nay *do* work) for good to those that love GOD."—Blessed be GOD for that little, that great word ALL.—Could we always act faith upon that, nothing could move us.—It is this promise that makes me now to rejoice in the midst of all the tribulations that has befallen my dear *Tabernacle* friends.—For ere long you shall sing,

——————*O happy Rod!*
That brought us nearer to our GOD!

Courage, therefore, my brother, courage.—The LORD will yet uphold you with his right hand.—Only live near to JESUS, and let the language of your heart be, "LORD, *let me know myself and thee!*" All trials are sent for these two ends, that we may be better acquainted with the dear LORD JESUS, and

with our own wicked hearts.—That you may increaſe in this knowledge more and more, is the earneſt prayer of

Your affectionate friend, and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

P. S. My dear wife joins in ſending hearty ſalutations to all.—I muſt refer you to other letters for news.

LETTER DLXXX.

To Mr. A———.

Bethesda, Dec. 29, 1746.

My very dear Brother A———,

SINCE I wrote to you from *Maryland*, I have received two or three kind letters from you, in which I have had a particular account how affairs ſtand in *England*.—I bleſs GOD for the gracious aſſiſtance he has been pleaſed to afford you, and pray for a continuance and increaſe of it to your dear ſoul ever more and more—O my very dear brother, it is no ſmall favour to be kept ſteady and humbly bold for the glorious *Emmanuel* in a cloudy dark day.—This honour the LORD JESUS has conferred on you—May his paſt goodneſs ſtrengthen your faith, and encourage you to truſt in him amidſt all future trials!—I ſay future trials—for we muſt never expect an entire ceſſation of arms, till we bow down our heads and give up the ghoſt—Our trials will be changed in order to diſcover to us the remainder of corruption in the heart; but they will not, they muſt not be entirely removed—The captain of our ſalvation was made perfect through ſufferings, and ſo muſt we—Be ſtrong therefore, my brother, in the grace which is in CHRIST JESUS—Endure afflictions—make full proof of thy miniſtry—Truth is great, and will prevail—Fail not writing—Other letters will acquaint you with particulars about me.—Continue in prayer, and it may be, ſooner than your expectations, you may ſee

Your very unworthy, but affectionate brother and ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

P. S. My dear yoke-fellow joins in ſending moſt cordial ſalutations to you, yours, and all that love the precious CHRIST.

Charles-

Charles-Town, Jan. 21, 1747.

Since I wrote the above I have had ſome ſweet ſeaſons at *Betheſda:* I intend ſtaying here ſome days, and will redeem what time I can to write to friends—May grace, mercy and peace be multiplied upon them all: Amen and Amen.—My dear wife and family are well—GOD willing, we move northward in the beginning of *March.*

LETTER DLXXXI.

To Mr. H—— J——,

My very dear Brother, *Charles-Town, Jan.* 23, 1747.

I Owe you much love, and though I have written to you more than once, yet I look upon myſelf as indebted to you ſtill.—I therefore now ſit down to anſwer the kind letter which you ſent my dear yokefellow.—She is now at *Georgia,* and having not as yet ſeen it, ſhe cannot anſwer it herſelf.—Bleſſed be GOD ſhe is well, and proſpers both in ſoul and body—We talk of you often, and hope yet to live and have our hearts warmed with our *Engliſh* and *Welch* friends ere we go hence, and are no more ſeen. At preſent the cloud ſeems to hang over the *American* parts.—The LORD JESUS is pleaſed to give me great acceſs to multitudes of ſouls, and I hope has withal given me as ſtrong an inclination as ever, to go out and preach to them the unſearchable riches of his dying love. I lately came from *Betheſda,* and found my family well, happy in JESUS, and happy in one another.—Our LORD bowed the heavens ſeveral times and came down among us, in the power of his eternal Spirit.—In the beginning of *March,* I purpoſe, GOD willing, to ſet out for the northward again, and ſhall not loſe any opportunity of writing, that offers in my way. I am ſorry to hear the leaven of *Antinomianiſm* is not yet purged out, and that animoſities are not yet ceaſed.—I can ſay nothing at this diſtance, but pray that the GOD of peace and love may direct and rule all my dear friends hearts. You will remember me to all in the moſt tender manner.—Indeed I omit no opportunity of ſending.—I pray for you all continually, and begging a continued intereſt in all your prayers, I ſubſcribe myſelf, my very dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DLXXXII.

To a generous Benefactor unknown.

Charles-Town, March, 15, 1747.

WHOEVER you are that delight to imitate the divine beneficence in doing good to your fellow-creatures when they know not of it, I think it my duty, in behalf of the poor orphans committed to my care, to send you a letter of thanks for your kind, generous and opportune benefaction.—That GOD who has opened your heart to give so bountifully, will as bountifully reward you.—I trust you have contributed towards the promoting an institution, which has, and I believe will redound much to the Redeemer's glory.—Blessed be GOD, I hope I can say, that *Bethesda* was never in better order than it is now, in all probability taking root downwards, and bearing fruit upwards.—Since my arrival there this winter, I have opened a *Latin* school, and have several children of promising abilities that have begun to learn.—One little orphan, who this time twelvemonth could not read his letters, has made a considerable proficiency in his *Accidence*.—The blessed spirit has been striving with several of the children's infant hearts, and I hope ere long to see some ministers sent forth from that despised place called *Georgia*. It is true, the constitution of that colony is very bad, and it is impossible for the inhabitants to subsist themselves without the use of slaves. But GOD has put it into the hearts of my *South-Carolina* friends, to contribute liberally towards purchasing a plantation and slaves in this province; which I purpose to devote to the support of *Bethesda*.—Blessed be GOD, the purchase is made.—I last week bought, at a very cheap rate, a plantation of six hundred and forty acres of excellent land, with a good house, barn, and out-houses, and sixty acres of ground ready cleared, fenced and fit for rice, corn, and every thing that will be necessary for provisions. One negroe has been given me.—Some more I purpose to purchase this week.—An overseer is put upon the plantation, and I trust a sufficient quantity of provision will be raised this year.—The family at *Bethesda* consists of twenty-six.—When my arrears are discharged, I purpose to increase the number.—I hope that time will

soon

ſoon come; and that he who has begun, will go on to ſtir up the friends of *Zion* to help me, not only to diſcharge the arrears, but alſo to bring the plantation lately purchaſed to ſuch perfection, that if I ſhould die ſhortly, *Bethesda* may yet be provided for.—As you have been ſuch a benefactor, I thought proper to give you this particular account, that you may ſee it is not given in vain.—I could enlarge, but have only room to ſubſcribe myſelf, generous friend,

Your moſt obliged ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXXIII.

To Mrs. B.

Bohemia, (Maryland) Sunday night, April. 26, 1747.

Very dear Mrs. B.

IF you will promiſe not to be ſorry, that you ſet out ſo ſoon, I will inform you, that through the ſingular goodneſs of a loving Redeemer, we reached *Bohemia* laſt night, after a pleaſant journey of about five weeks from *Charles-Town*. To-day, I truſt we have enjoyed ſome taſte of that love, which I pray the LORD of all Lords to ſhed abroad abundantly in your dear heart by the Holy Ghoſt. You are entered upon a ſcene that will call for more than ordinary aſſiſtance. JESUS, who himſelf was once in a wilderneſs, knows how to ſuccour, ſupport and comfort you. "Out of the eater he can bring forth meat; Out of the ſtrong he can and will bring forth ſweetneſs." My poor prayers do and will follow you. I truſt you will return loaded with experience; and however your journey may turn out in reſpect to your body, I am perſuaded it will be for the benefit of your ſoul. To tell you how bountifully the glorious *Emmanuel* hath dealt with us, would fill a volume. He hath indeed done wonders for us,—ſome of which I hope to relate to you, when I ſee you face to face. After two days abode here, I purpoſe, GOD willing, to take a three weeks circuit in hunting after *Maryland* ſinners. In *Virginia*, for the preſent, the door is ſhut; but I believe it will be open in the fall to more advantage. I have no thoughts of viſiting it this ſpring. The cloud moves another way. However, night and day I ſhall remember you in your

little

little hut, praying that you may meet with agreeable company to join in saying, "LORD JESUS, all my springs are in thee." * that you may be continually enabled to believe on him, and find him to be a well of water springing up to life eternal, is the hearty prayer of, very dear Mrs. *B*——,

Your very affectionate, sympathizing friend,
and willing servant for JESUS's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DLXXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. F——.

Bohemia, April 28, 1747.

Rev. and very dear Brother,

WITH this, I send you a packet from your brother, whom I left well and happy at *Bethesda* about six weeks ago. As I came along I saw Mr. *Davis:* He is licensed, as are the four houses in *Virginia*; but there is a proclamation issued out against all itinerants. Nothing can be done to the purpose, but all will be in the utmost confusion, unless some proper person is always resident among the awakened souls. Pray acquaint your brethren of this. How do you all? Has JESUS warmed your hearts this last cold Winter, and kept you from spiritual frost? He has been very gracious to us southward; and as we came along, "the wilderness seemed to blossom like a rose." About five weeks ago, we left *Charles-Town*, and reached *Bohemia* last *Saturday* evening. We came from *Hanover* county to this place in five days. I am now dispatching my private affairs, and after about three weeks itinerant preaching in these parts, I purpose, GOD willing, to go towards *Philadelphia.* You will remember me in a particular manner to the young students.—They have a continual share in my poor prayers; and the continuance of theirs and yours is earnestly desired by, my very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DLXXXV.

To the Honourable J. W——, Esq;

New-Town, (Maryland) May 6, 1747.

Honoured Sir,

A Few days past I had the pleasure of yours, dated *November* 28th. I embrace this first opportunity of returning you my hearty thanks for the unmerited kindness and affection expressed therein. May the Redeemer give me an humble heart, and grant that all favours conferred upon me by instruments, may lead me nearer to him, the source and fountain of all! But what shall I say to dear *New-England*'s sorrowful circumstances? It pities me to hear that she is still lying in the dust. However, this has generally been the case: trying and distressing times have generally followed awakening and converting times. May JESUS second them with another alarm of his holy spirit, and then all will be well. Glad would I be to come and offer myself once more to do *New-England* service; but I am afraid that many ministers and the heads of the people would not bear it. However, was this my only reason, it would soon be answered. — But here are thousands in these Southern parts (as you have observed, honoured Sir), that scarce ever heard of redeeming grace and love. Is it not my duty as an itinerant, since other places have had their calls and awakening seasons, to go where the gospel has not been named? Those who think I want to make a party, or to disturb churches, do not know me. I am willing to hunt in the woods after sinners; and, according to the present temper of my mind, could be content that the name of *George Whitefield* should die, if thereby the name of my dear Redeemer could be exalted. Indeed I am amazed that he employs me at all. But what shall we say? He hateth putting away, therefore I am not consumed. Grace, sovereign free grace! shall be all my song. Last Winter's mercies have renewed my obligations to extol free grace. I could enlarge, but several things forbid. In heaven, dear Sir, we shall have no interruptions. That you may be supported through all the fatigues of your journey thither, and with all your dear family, at length arrive at the land of eternal rest, is the earnest prayer of, honoured Sir,

Yours, &c.

3 *G. W.*

Postscript.

Poſtſcript. Fearing I ſhall not have an opportunity of ſeeing you, before you embark for *England*, it being uncertain whether your honour will be at *Philadelphia* upon my coming there, I think it my duty, honoured Sir, in this way to wiſh you, your honoured Lady and little Miſs, an extraordinary good voyage. May the GOD of the ſeas as well as the GOD of the dry land, be your convoy and pilot! May you and all who ſail with you, be preſerved from the hand of the enemy, and kept in perpetual peace and ſafety! As GOD ſhall enable me, my poor prayers ſhall follow you. They are your due, honoured Sir. The *Penſylvanians* I am ſure will ſoon regret the loſs of you, and all the friends of liberty and loyalty muſt be conſtrained to wiſh you well. O that the great Governor of the univerſe may ſo bleſs you with his holy ſpirit, that you may bring forth much fruit in old age! O that you may hear the great Judge of quick and dead ſalute you at the laſt day, with a "Well done, thou good and faithful ſervant, enter thou into the joy of thy LORD!" This, honoured Sir, is the native language of my heart. As I truſt you think me ſincere, be pleaſed to accept it, as the beſt acknowledgment I can make you and your beloved conſort, for all the kindneſſes you have been pleaſed to heap on, honoured Sir,

Your Honour's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXXVI.

To Mrs. P——.

New-Town, (Maryland) May 6, 1747.

Dear Mrs. P——,

I Muſt refrain no longer from returning you thanks for two or three kind letters with which you have favoured me. They ſeemed to ſpeak the language of a heart concerned for *Zion*'s glory. Well! Bleſſed are they that mourn for thoſe who will not mourn for themſelves, verily they ſhall be comforted. Bleſſed are they who are enabled to walk with GOD in a declining day;—they ſhall ſhine hereafter with a diſtinguiſhed luſtre. Thus *Enoch* did,—and *Enoch* was remarkably honoured.—"He was not, for GOD took him."—But ſhall the harps of *Boſton* Chriſtians be always hanging on the willows?

lows? No; JESUS will not be always chiding. He that has brought on this pleasant Spring, after so hard a Winter, can thaw men's hearts, and cause the turtle once more to be heard in the land. Hasten that time, O blessed LORD!—I hope you will keep close to your prayer-days. I have received the memorials from dear Mr. *P*——, and shall disperse them. I should be glad of a line from him. How are his dear daughters, and the other members of your society? I do not forget you, indeed I do not. If affection guided me, you would soon see me; but the people in these Southern parts are like people that have no shepherd. Surely I ought to go out after them. To-day I have had a sweet season. People are very ready to hear, and the word seems to fasten in some souls. Follow me with your prayers. Remember me to your husband, and to all, in the most cordial manner, and believe me to be

Your very affectionate friend, and willing servant
for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXXVII.

To Madam P——. Peppercll

Dover, (*Pensylvania*) *May* 8, 1747.

Honoured Madam,

THE great though unmerited regard you have always been pleased to express for me, emboldens me now and then to drop you a line to inform you, that you are not forgotten by me before that GOD whose mercy endureth for ever. I trust, your latter end, like that of *Job*'s, will greatly increase, and that you will, as it is said of the righteous, "Bring forth much fruit in old age." Your honoured husband (to whom be pleased to present my dutiful respects) I suppose is now with you. The LORD hath honoured you with many honours, and I hope, amidst all outward favours, does not withhold the comforting influences of his blessed spirit from your soul. I have reason to believe, you esteem this above all earthly things whatsoever. O, dear Madam! how mean and contemptible does every creature appear, when the soul gets a near view of a crucified Redeemer! How easy to bear pain, when one meditates on the agony and bloody sweat of an incarnate GOD!

GOD! Here then, honoured madam, fix your eye. Look unto JESUS continually. He hath been the author, he will be the finisher of your faith. I find him to be a GOD that changeth not, a tender and compassionate High Priest. Thro' his help, I continue to this day preaching amongst poor sinners the unsearchable riches of his dying love. I am as well in health as I can expect to be, and more and more determined to spend and be spent for the good of precious and immortal souls. Through grace, my labours are rendered very acceptable in various places. Be pleased, Madam, to remember me before the throne. I neither forget you nor the General.—I pray that GOD's loving-kindnesses and fatherly corrections may make you truly great, and beg leave to subscribe myself, honoured Madam,

Your affectionate, obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DLXXXVIII.

To Mr. B——, Senior.

Dover, May 8, 1747.

Very dear Mr. B——,

I Think it is high time for me to send you a line of thanks, for the favours you have been pleased to shew me, while others were loading me with scorn and contempt. A weak body and continued employ in the service of the best of Masters, occasion my not writing so frequently to my dear friends, as love and gratitude would prompt me to do. You will accept this unfeigned apology, and still increase the obligations you have laid upon me, by continuing to remember me before the LORD. I have need, great need of the united prayers of my christian friends.—For JESUS hath of late so remarkably appeared for me, that I ought to lay myself out more and more in going about endeavouring to do good to precious and immortal souls. At present this is my settled resolution. The Redeemer seems to approve of it; for the fields in the Southern parts are white ready unto harvest, and many seem to have the hearing ear. All next *October*, GOD willing, I have devoted to poor *North-Carolina*. It is pleasant hunting in the woods after the lost sheep for whom the Redeemer hath shed his precious

cious blood. May the LORD of the harveſt ſpirit up more to go forth in his ſtrength, to compel poor ſinners to come in! I hope that you and my other *Boſton* friends do go in and out, and find good paſture. I hear it is a Winter time with many. May GOD keep the fatal languor from extending to the circle of my intimate friends! For alas, what is a chriſtian without a holy warmth? Will you remember me to all that you know, in the moſt tender manner? I beſeech them by the mercies of GOD, to live *near* to JESU's croſs, and whatever others may do, let them and theirs ſerve the LORD CHRIST. You will remember me in particular to Mr. *F*——, and his family, Mr. *V*—— and wife, your dear ſon, and your whole houſhold, as being, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged friend
and brother in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DLXXXIX.

To Mr. H—— S——.

Dover, May 9, 1747.

AS you were my kind hoſt and peculiar friend, I take the liberty of writing to you more frequently than to others. I hope you will accept of this as a token of my unfeigned gratitude and love. It brings you the news of my being advanced thus far, of my being in health, and employed in going about and preaching to poor ſinners the unſearchable riches of JESUS CHRIST. I ſhall be more northward, GOD willing, in *June*, and poſſibly may ſtretch as far as ſome part of *New-England*. —But I am not yet determined. Pray for me, dear Mr. *S*——, that JESUS may direct my ſteps. I would not willingly go to the right hand or to the left, contrary to his bleſſed will, for ten thouſand worlds.—When ſhall I have another line from you? It may be directed to me at *Philadelphia*. My dear yoke-fellow is there now. We travelled very pleaſantly through the woods, and purpoſe returning to *South-Carolina* and *Georgia* in the fall. We lead a moving life, but I truſt we move heaven-ward. O that JESUS may quicken all his dear people's hearts, and cauſe them to mount on wings like an eagle! I hear that times are yet dead in *New-England*.

It is dreadful to have winter all the year round. May your heart, my dear Sir, and the heart of your dear wife, and the hearts of all my dear friends, be kept close to JESUS, and continually flaming with love! I know you will readily say *Amen*. For the present, adieu. I must go to my delightful work, PREACHING. Pray remember me to all. Let me have a line, and tell me whether the LORD stirs up any to lend an helping hand to, very dear Mr. *S*——,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DXC.

To the Reverend Mr. M——, junior.

Dover in Pensylvania, May 9, 1747.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

EVER since I have known and heard of you, the LORD JESUS CHRIST hath made you peculiarly dear to my soul. Your troubles and soul distresses have in some measure been my own. I have looked and learned from your case, that we are indeed but clay in the hands of the heavenly potter, and that a sovereign GOD may deal with us as it seemeth good in his sight. "His ways are in the deep waters, and his footsteps are not known." What he does to us now, we know not, but we shall know hereafter. How will you be surprized, dear Sir, in a very short time, to see that JESUS, whom your soul loves, and who has many a time shed abroad his love in your heart; how will you be surprized to see him receive you into glory, and turning your late or present *Egyptian* darkness into celestial and eternal day? May the compassionate high priest till then support your sinking spirits, and enable you to cope with and overcome all those difficulties and temptations, which either the prevalency of an inveterate melancholy, or the malice of evil spirits, may make you the subject of! Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat; but surely JESUS prays for you, though as it were behind the curtain. Excuse this freedom, reverend Sir; redeeming love constrains me to write thus. I hope you will receive it, as it is written, in much love. If you enquire after me, I would inform you that I am travelling about, and preaching from time to time among poor sinners the unsearchable riches of

JESUS

JESUS CHRIST. I trust, my labours are not in vain in the LORD. The glorious *Emmanuel* has given me a pleasant Winter, and I hope is about to cause these southern wildernesses to blossom like a rose. You will follow me with your prayers. My most humble and affectionate respects await your aged father. My love to your nurse, and all *York* friends. I am

Yours most affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DXCI.

To Mrs. B———.

Wicoacommoco, (Maryland) May 16, 1747.

Dear Mrs. B——,

HEARING by Captain *Adams* that the glorious *Emmanuel* holds your soul in life, I cannot help letting you know, past kindnesses are not yet forgotten, and that I wish you much spiritual and temporal prosperity. How does your soul prosper in these hard, dull and afflicting times? Has tribulation produced patience, patience experience, and experience hope; and do you find thereby the love of GOD shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Ghost? Happy then, unspeakably happy are you in being afflicted. With exultation of heart may you sing,

O happy rod!
That brought me nearer to my GOD.

I think I can say, it is good to bear the yoke of affliction in youth. It teaches one to keep silence, and weans us from a too great attachment to all sublunary enjoyments. I have a few strokes of my father's rod from time to time, as well as you. But I find that his rod as well as his staff do comfort. I am a naughty child, and want much correction; but he that wounds, heals also, and in glory we shall find, that his loving correction hath made us great. O glory! It is yonder in view; JESUS stands at the top of the ladder to receive us into it. Look to him, dear Mrs. *B*——, for surely he is your never-dying husband.—Death itself shall not, death cannot part him and you. Had I strength equal to my will, I should write much of the Redeemer's everlasting love; but my body is

weak through continued journeyings and preaching. However, CHRIST's ſtrength is in ſome degree magnified in my weakneſs, and my preaching is bleſſed to poor ſouls. Amazing love! *Maryland* is yielding converts to the bleſſed JESUS. The goſpel ſeems to be moving ſouthward. Pray for me, that I may be unwearied in well doing, and follow the Lamb whitherſoever he ſhall be pleaſed to lead me. Pray remember me in the kindeſt manner to your aged declining paſtor, the other miniſter who lives about five miles from you, to Mr. *J*——, and all my kind nurſes, and dear *York* friends. I find death and ſickneſs have made great havock and alterations among them. May JESUS ſanctify all events to the furtherance of his grace, in all their hearts, and give us to meet where the wicked ceaſe from troubling, and the weary are at reſt! I ſalute you and all, and once more praying that you and yours may be watered by the bleſſed JESUS every momoment, I ſubſcribe myſelf, dear *Mrs. B*——,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged
ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DXCII.

To the Reverend Mr. J—— R——.

Wicacommoca, May 16, 1747.

CAN ſouls united in JESUS's love ever forget one another? It is difficult, though I believe poſſible; and in dull ſeaſons I fear too common. However, bleſſed be the Redeemer, I have not yet forgotten my dear Mr. *R*——. As a proof it, I ſend you theſe few lines by Captain *Adams*. You ſee whence they are dated. Methinks I ſee you rejoice, and ready to ſay, "And have the *Marylanders* alſo received the grace of GOD?" I truſt ſome have indeed received his grace in ſincerity. The harveſt is promiſing.—The heat tries my waſting tabernacle, but, through CHRIST ſtrengthening me, I intend perſiſting till I drop. Since I ſaw you, the glorious *Emmanuel* has multiplied my obligations to ſpend and be ſpent in his ſervice a thouſand-fold. The language of my heart at preſent is,

A will-

A willing and a chearful mind,
That life and all things caſt behind,
Springs forth obedient to thy call;
A heart that no deſire can move,
But ſtill to adore, believe and love,
Give me, my CHRIST, *my* GOD, *my all.*

O dear Sir, continue to pray for me, that I may not flag in the latter ſtages of my road. I was in hopes of ſeeing you this Summer, but am afraid my engagements to preach in *North-Carolina* next *October* will prevent me. However, you and the other dear neighbouring miniſters are always upon my heart. I pity them in their preſent diſtreſſing circumſtances, and pray that they and you may have grace given to endure hardneſs like good ſoldiers of JESUS CHRIST. Your dear father I hear is diſcharged from all campaigns.—Ere long, the captain of our ſalvation will command us home alſo. The LORD grant that we may die like ſoldiers, fighting againſt the devil, the world, and the fleſh. How are your dear brothers and ſon? Pray give my hearty love to them, and to your dear wife, and whole houſhold. I ſalute you all from my dear fellow pilgrim now at *Philadelphia*; and praying that you may have thouſands to be your joy and crown of rejoicing in the great day, I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your very affectionate friend, brother and
willing ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DXCIII.

To the Reverend Mr. B———.

Near New-Town, (Maryland) May 21, 1747.

AND how does my dear friend and brother Mr. *B*——— after ſo long a ſilence? What a pity is it, that the Redeemer's children cannot more frequently correſpond with each other? Bleſſed be GOD, there is a time coming, when our fellowſhip with JESUS and one another ſhall never be interrupted. Now is the time for ſtirring; then will be a time for ſitting, in no meaner place than (O amazing love!) at the

right hand of the everloving, everlovely Lamb of GOD.—Well then my dear man, let us go on in his ſtrength, and ſee what we can do for precious and immortal ſouls. Indeed they are purchaſed with the blood of GOD. This conſideration excites me to perſiſt in going out into the highways and hedges. —I have been now a three hundred mile circuit in *Mary-land*, and through one or two counties in *Penſilvania*. Every where people have a hearing ear, and I truſt ſome have an obedient heart. I hope the time of ſinging of birds is come to *New-England*, and that your hands are full of work. I moſt heartily wiſh you very much ſucceſs. I cordially ſalute your dear yoke-fellow, and all the followers of the Lamb, and beg you would not forget, my dear old friend,

Your affectionate

G. W.

LETTER DXCIV.

To the Reverend Mr. P——.

New-Town, May 21, 1747.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

IT ſometimes gives me concern that I cannot hear oftener from you, and your dear ſon, whom I love ſo tenderly. But I ſuppoſe your hands are full of work for the beſt of maſters. I pray him daily, that you may be crowned with much ſucceſs. Though I have deſerved a thouſand and a thouſand times over to be caſt off, yet ſuch is the divine goodneſs, that my labours in freſh places are made very acceptable daily. I have now been upon the ſtretch, preaching conſtantly for almoſt three weeks. I hope I can ſay with ſincerity (O that I may ſay it with humility!) that GOD hath been with me of a truth. My body is often extremely weak, but the joy of the LORD is my ſtrength, and by the help of my GOD I intend going on till I drop, or this poor carcaſe can hold out no more. Theſe ſouthern colonies lie in darkneſs, and yet, as far as I find, are as willing to receive the goſpel as others. If ſome books could be purchaſed to diſpoſe among poor people, much good might be done. Pray, Sir, have you any Latin ſchool-books to ſpare? I ſhall want ſome for the Orphan-houſe. I hope to hear from you at *Philadel-*

phia, where I expect to be in a week's time. In the mean while, reverend Sir, I beg you would make my most cordial and humble respects acceptable to all your reverend brethren, that honoured me with their acquaintance, as well as to your dear family and all other friends. I wish you and them millions and millions of blessings, and intreat the continuance of their and your prayers, for, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, though unworthy younger brother, and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DXCV.

To Mr. H—— H——.

Philadelphia, May 30, 1747.

My dearest Brother,

HAD I strength equal to my will, you should now receive from me a very long letter; but at present I have such a fever upon me, that I can scarce send you a few lines. However I will try. Your dear letters in *August* last came to my hands last Lord's-day.—They variously affected me, and put me on the search, whether I had neglected writing to my very dear man. Upon enquiry, I found that I wrote to you about the same time as I wrote to Mr. *J*——, and brother *S*——, and four or five times since. Blessed be the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, I am not suffered to forget old love and old friends. Indeed you are very dear to me,—all of you very dear to me still. I thank you ten thousand times for all expressions of your tender love, and for your steadiness in the truths and cause of CHRIST; and hope sometimes that your prayers will draw me to *England* more speedily than I imagine. But what shall I say, my dear friend? Here are thousands and thousands in *America* who as to spiritual things know not their right hand from their left; and who are ready to hear the gospel from my mouth. Since my coming this time from *Georgia*, I have been within these five weeks a circuit of 400 miles, and every where found the fields white ready unto harvest. Nobody goes out scarcely but myself. As you are in *England* and *Wales*, the power of religion I trust will be kept up; and

though my coming ſhould be delayed ſome time longer, yet when I am ſent, it will be with the greater bleſſing. I am daily finiſhing my outward affairs, and ſhall think my call clearer home, when I have provided for the ſupport of the Orphan-houſe. The generous benefactor's letter pierced my heart, made me to ſhed tears of love, and to put up many prayers for him. I ſent him a letter from *Charles-Town* under cover to Mr. *B*——. If the perſon be unknown, I ſee no impropriety in printing my letter in the *Daily Advertiſer* or *Evening Poſt*. I am glad you have printed my letter to the *Litchfield* clergy, and want to know what effect my ſermon on the rebellion has had. Our LORD has bleſſed it much in theſe parts. I ſhall be glad when the great Head of the church unites dear brethren again. I truſt nothing ſhall be wanting on my part when I come over. An union before perhaps may not be ſo well. However, I leave it to you, my dear Sir, and think that the bar being taken away againſt people's coming to the tabernacle, may be one good ſtep towards it. I wait upon the LORD. As his grace increaſes in the heart, I am ſure his children will grow leſs poſitive and more child-like, yet more ſteady. O my dear man, I could write all night long, but am ſo giddy by hard riding and preaching conſtantly in the heat of the day, that I muſt defer being more particular till another opportunity. I hope my dear wife will ſupply all my deficiencies. Remember me in the tendereſt manner to all. Bid them to pray me to *England*; and in the mean while, they may aſſure themſelves they are not forgotten by, my very dear brother,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXCVI.

Philadelphia, June 1, 1747.

My dear Mr. H——,

I Make no apology for troubling you with the incloſed. I hear you have taken the Tabernacle outward affairs into your hands. I am glad of it, and pray the LORD of all Lords to make you a faithful ſteward of his manifold gifts. You will remember me moſt tenderly to dear Mrs. *H*——, and to all

all friends. Perhaps I may see you yet before I die. GOD is delivering me out of my embarrassments by degrees. With the collection made at *Charles-Town*, I have purchased a plantation and some slaves, which I intend to devote to the use of *Bethesda*. When a sufficient fund for the future support of that house is raised, so that it may not lie as a dead weight upon me when absent, I shall think my call clearer to *England*. At present I have full work here; the congregations yesterday were exceeding large, and for this month past I have been preaching to thousands in different places. I am sick and well, as I used to be in *England*; but the Redeemer fills me with comfort, and gives me to rejoice in his salvation day by day. I am determined in his strength to die fighting, and to go on till I drop. He is a JESUS worth dying for. Once more, remember us to all. We remember you, and am, as much as as ever, dear Mr. *H*——,

Your affectionate friend, brother and
willing servant in CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DXCVII.

To Mr. J—— S——.

Very dear Sir, *Philadelphia, June* 4, 1747.

YESTERDAY I received your very kind and judicious letter. In answer to it, must inform you, that in all probability I shall once more see my dear *New-England* friends this summer. I suppose it will be some time in *July*. At present my whole frame of nature seems to be shocked. — I have had several returns of my convulsions, and have almost always a continual burning fever. With great regret I have omitted preaching one night (to oblige my friends,) and purpose to do so once more, that they may not charge me with murdering myself; but I hope yet to die in the pulpit, or soon after I come out of it. Dying is exceeding pleasant to me: for the LORD, though my body is so weak, causes my soul to rejoice exceedingly. Letters from *England* refreshed me; all of them call me home loudly. May JESUS direct my steps! I am poor and needy, but the LORD I am persuaded will be my helper. Outward affairs when I am weak pull me down; but the LORD can and will raise and keep me up.—I preach here with

with great acceptance. Congregations are as large as ever. Next *Monday* sevennight I purpose, GOD willing, to set out for *New-York*. I wrote lately from *New-Town*, to Messrs. *Prince*, *W*——, *R*——, *&c.* but am apt to believe the packet has miscarried. I think to come by way of *Long-Island*, and to return by *Connecticut*. You will not be slack in getting all to pray for me, who am, very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DXCVIII.

To Mr. P——.

Very Dear Sir, *Philadelphia, June* 5, 1747.

THOUGH this frail nature of mine has lately received several very great shocks, yet I cannot, if strength admits, omit writing you a line. Glad was I when I came to town, to hear by Captain *G*—— that you was so far recovered, as to be able once more to go to the house of GOD. I heartily wish you, dear Sir, what the noble Colonel *Gardiner* once wished me, "A thriving soul in a healthy body." Or however it may be with the one, I earnestly pray that the other may prosper. Sickness is often made use of as a means, in the hands of an all-gracious Father, to ripen our graces and fit us for heaven. Through grace, I can say it is good for me to be sick, though I am afraid I am too impatient to be gone. Well! He that cometh, will come, and cannot tarry long: till then may I be resigned, and work the works of him that sent me whilst it is day, before the night cometh when no man can work. I could proceed, but indeed, dear Sir, strength faileth me. However, I hope to see you and my other dear *Charles-Town* friends in *November*. O that till then we may every moment grow in grace and in the knowledge of JESUS CHRIST. I would write to many, but weakness forbids. I must refer you to Mr. *S*—— for particulars concerning me. My dear yoke-fellow joins in sending cordial respects to yourself and all friends. Neither you nor they are forgotten by, very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DXCIX.

To Mr. B——.

Philadelphia, June 6, 1747.

My very dear Friend,

I Love you dearly, and therefore muſt, though in much weakneſs, ſend you a line. It informs you of my being ſick, but withal of the LORD's comforting me, and cauſing me to triumph over the king of terrors. Mr. *B*——I ſuppoſe, ere this reaches you, will let you know that the word has run, and hath been glorified in *Mary-land*. Satan has attempted to ſtop the progreſs of the everlaſting goſpel in *Virginia*; but I believe he has overſhot himſelf. How can it be otherwiſe? ſince eternal Truth hath ſaid, "The ſeed of the woman ſhall bruiſe the ſerpent's head." I hope you find this true, by the daily conqueſt you get over the corruptions of your heart. Remember who hath promiſed to make you more than conqueror through his love. Our kind reſpects attend dear Mrs. *B*——, your ſon, and daughter, and all friends. O that we may meet grown in grace, and the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. I ſubſcribe myſelf, very dear Mr. *B*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DC.

To the Reverend Mr. S——.

Philadelphia, June 23, 1747.

Reverend and dear Sir,

SINCE my laſt, I have been ſeveral times on the verge of eternity. To-day I have got a few more ſpirits. I would improve them in anſwering your kind letter, which I received yeſterday. I am obliged to *Charles-Town* friends: their example will certainly influence many here. Something is upon the anvil. Particulars expect in my next. To-morrow, GOD willing, I ſet out for *New-York*, to ſee if I can gain ſtrength. At preſent I am ſo weak, that I cannot preach. —'Tis hard work to be ſilent; but I muſt be tried every way. Friends are exceeding kind. What is the beſt of all, the friend

friend of ſinners looks in upon, and comforts my heart. I have had loud calls to *England*. Matters go on bravely there, and in *Wales*. My *State Sermon* has gone through two editions. They have alſo my five laſt ſermons, which have convinced my friends that I am firm to my principles. May JESUS keep me ſteady till I die! I am glad Mr. *P*—— went off ſo well. His children I look upon as my own. The things which he had belong to me. I would have them taken to *Providence*: for that alſo *Deus providebit*. Your father is well, and always talking of you. Why did you not mention his wife in your letter? She is a diſcreet woman, and deſired to be remembered to you. Every day ſhe expects to lie in. You will excuſe my enlarging.—Strength begins to fail me. However, whilſt I have ſtrength I would employ it in praying for you and yours. I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCI.

To Mr. R——.

New-York, June 28, 1747.

My dear Brother,

THANKS be to GOD, for revealing his dear Son in you. Thanks be to his great name for calling you to preach his everlaſting goſpel. I give him all the glory, and adore him for making ill and hell-deſerving me, the happy inſtrument of alarming and awakening your dead ſoul. Ere long, I hope we ſhall meet in eternity, to ſing endleſs praiſes to him who has redeemed us unto GOD by his blood, and has made us kings and prieſts unto GOD, and enables us to reign over death, hell, and ſin, even whilſt here on earth. I abhor all thoſe bad principles which you mention, and cannot join ſo as to labour in the ſame place, and upon the ſame plan, with thoſe that hold them. However, let us behave with meekneſs, my dear brother, and we ſhall ſoon find that every plant that our heavenly father hath not planted, ſhall be plucked up. "He that believeth doth not make haſte." JESUS reigneth; let our eyes wait on Him. All things ſhall work, and even now are working, together for good to all that

love

love him. In due time you will see me, perhaps next year. I am as willing to hunt for souls as ever. I am not weary of my master or his work, though he might long ago have been weary of me. But his name is Love. Proclaim it, my dear Sir, proclaim it till thou diest. By the strength of GOD I will. My love to all. I can now write no more, being recovered from a great illness. Continue to pray over

Your affectionate friend, brother
and servant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCII.

To Dr. B——.

Dear Sir, *New-York, June* 29, 1747.

SINCE I wrote to Doctor *S*——, I have preached to a very large auditory, and, blessed be GOD, do not find myself much worse for it this morning. As I am bound to thank you for all favours, so especially would I send my acknowledgments for promoting this northward excursion. I believe it will be a great means of restoring my health, which I value upon no other account, than as it renders me more capable of doing good to mankind. A pleasing prospect of action lies before me. I am willing once more, in the strength of JESUS of *Nazareth*, to enter the field, and hope through his blessing, I shall return to *Philadelphia* laden with fresh experiences of unwearied and redeeming love. Whether I shall leave *New-York* this week is uncertain. But wherever I am, assure yourself, dear Sir, your favours shall not be forgotten. That the great physician of souls may bless you and yours with the choicest of his mercies, is and shall be the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCIII.

To ———.

New-York, June 29, 1747.

My very dear, dear Brother,

IT is with much pleasure I now sit down to answer your kind and welcome letters, dated *April* 11th and 13th. And to keep you no longer in suspence, I would inform you, that they have had such an effect upon me, that, GOD willing, I am determined to embark for *England* or *Scotland* early next Spring.—'Till *Christmas* I am already under indissoluble engagements, and am making a strong effort, in dependance on the great Head of the church, to get free from my outward embarrasments.—I thank my dear *English* friends for what they have done for me in this respect, and must beg you, my dear and faithful brother, still to do what you can further. The LORD JESUS seems *to assure me* that the time of my deliverance is at hand.—I hope before this year is out, to stock my new plantation in *South-Carolina* as a *visible fund* for the *Orphan-house*, and upon news of something more being done in *England*, (so that my poor heart may no more be oppressed as it has been for many years by outward difficulties,) my answer shall be, Lo! I come once more to see my dear, very dear friends on the other side of the mighty waters. 'Till then, I shall as it were count the hours, and long for them to glide away a-pace. My dear yoke-fellow now at *Philadelphia* is like-minded, being exceedingly desirous to see her dear friends once more. May JESUS grant it, if it be agreeable to his holy will! Indeed, I have lately thought I should never see you any more. For some weeks past, I have been exceedingly indisposed. GOD has been pleased to bring my body to the very brink of the grave by convulsions, gravel, a nervous cholic, and a violent fever. But as pain and afflictions abounded, consolations much more abounded, and my soul longed to take its flight to JESUS. For this week past I have not preached; but since my leaving *Philadelphia*, about three days ago, I seemed to have gathered strength, and hope once more, to-morrow, to proclaim amongst poor sinners the unsearchable riches of JESUS CHRIST. From hence I pur-

I purpose to go to *Boston*, and return by land so as to reach *Charles-Town* by *November*.—Glad shall I be to receive an answer to this, about that time there.—For upon that in a great measure will depend my coming to you, or staying longer in these parts. Blessed be the LORD of all Lords, the door is yet open here, and I am exceedingly rejoiced to find it is kept so sweetly open at home. I can easily guess how my dear man has been tried. I find more and more that through much tribulation we must enter into glory, and by sufferings be prepared for farther usefulness here below.—O that patience may have its perfect work in our hearts. O that underneath thee may be the everlasting arms, and that by happy experience thou mayst daily prove the strength of JESUS to be thine. I intend, GOD willing, to write to brother *J*——, &c. I rejoice that brother *E*—— still continues in his place.—It is a token for good. You will return my most humble and dutiful respects to good Lady *H—g—n*, the Marquis, and Mrs. *E——n*. If possible I will write to them.—I sent letters to the Marquis, Lord *L——n*, and Lord *R——a*, about *October* last, but suppose they have miscarried.—I leave my affairs to you, and depend on you, under GOD, to transact them all.—The trouble is great, but JESUS will support and reward thee.—Near forty pounds yearly were subscribed in *England* to the *Orphan-house*, but I have not received I think above five.—I have rather more confidence in you, if possible, my very dear Man, than ever. May JESUS reward thee for all thy works of faith, and labours which have proceeded of love!—I wish you joy of your little one, and most heartily salute your dear wife, and all the lovers of the blessed JESUS every where. I wrote to you about a month ago in extreme weakness, and shall neglect no opportunity of sending to you.—I beseech you to continue to pray me over, and assure yourself none of you are forgotten by, my very dear Brother,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCIV.

To the Rev. Mr. S——.

New-York, July 4, 1747.

Rev. and very dear Sir,

LAST week I left a letter for you at *Philadelphia*.—Since that, through the divine bleſſing, I have recovered a little more ſtrength, and find my appetite reſtored. I have been here about eight days, and to-morrow, GOD willing, intend poſting away to *Boſton*, and then I ſhall take a long, if not a final farewel of all my northward friends. I have preached twice with great freedom. People flock rather more than ever, and the LORD vouchſafes us ſolemn meetings. I hope to be back again in ſix weeks. I ſhall go, if JESUS gives ſtrength, like an arrow out of a bow. I have therefore left my dear yoke-fellow at *Philadelphia*, and expect to meet her again at *New-York*. Among theſe three northward provinces, I truſt ſomething conſiderable will be done towards paying off the orphan-houſe arrears. When that is effected, I care not how ſoon I ſing my *Nunc dimittis*; but I muſt wait 'till my bleſſed change come. You will be pleaſed to remember me to all, and you may expect, GOD willing, at the appointed time, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCV.

To Mr. A——.

New-York, July 4, 1747.

My very dear Brother A——,

I Have juſt now been reading over your kind letter, dated *November* 23d, the ſecond or third time.—It affected me much, and with the other letters, have conſtrained me to ſet my face towards *England*.—What is due in *America*, for the *Orphan-houſe*, I hope to diſcharge this year.—I am of your mind in reſpect to the work in *England*, and therefore am willing ſo to ſettle my affairs, that when I come over, I may ſtay with you for a long ſeaſon, if the LORD JESUS is pleaſed to give

give me health and ſtrength.—At preſent I am very weakly, and ſcarce able to preach above once or twice a week.—But if our Saviour hath further work for me to do, he can make me young and ſtrong as an eagle.—If not, I ſhall go to him whom my ſoul loveth, and whom I long to ſee.—Bleſſed be his Name that there are yet a few names left in *Sardis*, that have not defiled their garments, but have kept cloſe to his truths and cauſe in this declining day.——You will remember me to all moſt tenderly.—I pray for you continually, and whilſt I am writing, it being *Friday**, comfort myſelf with this conſideration, that many are praying for me.—You will ſee my letter to dear brother *H*——, and excuſe my being ſo ſhort, becauſe I am ſo weak.—Our LORD continues to deal graciouſly with me, and was I well, I have rather a wider door than ever opened before me.—But our thoughts are not as his thoughts.—For the preſent, adieu.—I ſend moſt cordial love to you, yours, and all, and am, more than ever,

Yours, &c. in the bleſſed JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCVI.

To Mr J—— C——.

My dear John, *New-York, July 5, 1747.*

THOUGH I am quite ſick and weak in body, yet the love I owe thee for JESU'S ſake, conſtrains me to anſwer your laſt kind letter, dated *Febuary* 5th. The other mentioned therein, never came to hand. I am ſorry to hear there are yet diſputings amongſt us about brick-walls. I was in hopes, after our conteſts of that kind about ſeven years ago, ſuch a ſcene would never appear again; but I find freſh offences muſt come, to ſearch out and diſcover to us freſh corruptions, to try our faith, teach us to ceaſe from man, and to lean more upon him, who by his infinite wiſdom and power will cauſe, "that out of the eater ſhall come forth meat, and from the ſtrong ſweetneſs." I am glad you find yourſelf happy in the holy JESUS. I wiſh thee an increaſe of ſuch dear-bought happineſs every day, and pray that thy mouth may not be ſtopped, as others have been before thee, from publiſhing the glad tidings of ſalvation, by a crucified Redeemer. It has

* A ſtated weekly day of prayer, at the *Tabernacle, London.*

been thy meat and drink to preach among poor sinners the unsearchable riches of JESUS CHRIST. May'st thou continue and abide in this plan, and whether I see thee or not, whether thou dost ever think of, or write to me any more, I wish thee much success, and shall always pray that the work of the LORD may prosper in thy hands. Whether you have changed your principles with your situation, I know not. I would only caution thee against taking any thing for *gospel* upon the mere authority of man. Go where thou wilt, though thou shouldest be in the purest society under heaven, thou wilt find that the best of men are but men at the best, and will meet with stumbling blocks enough, to teach thee the necessity of a continual dependence on the LORD JESUS, who alone is infallible, and who will not give that glory to another. Blessed be his Name, for the trials I have met with from the friends of *Zion*. At present, I can rejoice in being deserted by one, and used unkind by another, who at the great day must own me to be their spiritual father. Such trials are very salutary.—They lead me to the Cross, and I trust in the end will conform me to him, who in his bitterest agony had no one to watch with him, no not for one hour. My dear man, you will excuse me, as my heart at present is affected with the thoughts of the divisions that subsist between the servants and churches of JESUS CHRIST. May JESUS heal them, and hasten that blessed time, when we shall all see eye to eye, and there shall be no disputings about houses, doctrine, or discipline in all GOD's holy mountain! GOD willing, I purpose seeing *England* next year, and shall be glad to converse with thee once more, about the things which belong to our Saviour's kingdom—If my present sickness ends in death, we shall converse in a better world, and without the least discord and contention. Remember me to *Brampton*, and to all. I thank them for not forgetting the chief of sinners. Tell them JESUS is yet with me, and causes my rod to bud and blossom. The bush burns, but is not consumed. Adieu.

Thine in the glorious *Emmanuel*,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCVII.

To Mrs. R——.

Dear Madam, *New-Port, Auguſt* 20, 1747.

I Hope that ſince I left you, Mr. *M*——'s converſation has been bleſſed, and that you are ſteadily and deliberately reſolved to know nothing but JESUS CHRIST, and him crucified. Indeed he is the faireſt among ten thouſand. The more you know him, the more you will love him. O what a happy change will you experience when you enter into the world of new creatures! May JESUS haſten the time, and enable you to come as a poor, loſt, undone ſinner, to be clothed with his everlaſting righteouſneſs! Accept theſe few haſty lines. They are the language of a heart truly concerned for your eternal welfare. I ſalute Miſs *M*——; may JESUS make her a wiſe virgin, and give you and dear Mr. *R*—— grace to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD! I at preſent add no more. As opportunity offers, you ſhall hear again from me. Dear Madam,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant
for CHRIST ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCVIII.

To Mrs L——.

Dear Madam, *New-port, Auguſt* 20, 1747.

DOES not JESUS take his lambs into his arms, and dandle his little ones on his knees? Ought not his miniſters then to follow his good example, and ſtrive with him, not to quench the ſmoaking flax or break the bruiſed reed. This conſideration cauſes me to write you a few lines. May they find you as in an agony to enter in at the ſtraight gate! Courage, dear Mrs. *L*——, courage. CHRIST, heaven, glory, are worth your acceptance. They are all yours, if you will give him your heart. May JESUS make you willing, and enable you to ſay henceforward, "GOD forbid that I ſhould glory, ſave in the Croſs of JESUS CHRIST." You will re-

member me to Mr. *L*——, and all dear friends. As opportunity offers, they and you shall hear from, dear Madam,

Your most affectionate friend and willing servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCIX.

To Mr. D——.

Dear Mr. D——, *New-York, August* 27, 1747.

IS it not just, that I should pay off my old debts? consequently I must write to you. I owe you many letters, and more love. Accept this in part of payment. It brings you news of my safe arrival, through the good hand of my GOD upon me, at *New-York*. We were detained upon the water three or four days. I believe it was for good; for the LORD blessed it to the recovery of my health, so that I eat like a sailor. At present I find my nature recruited considerably, and met my dear yoke-fellow and friends well at this place. O that my heart glowed with thanks to the LORD of all Lords, whose mercy endureth for ever! Help me, my dear Sir, to be thankful. My obligations to my glorious JESUS are increased by my late excursion to *Charles-Town*, *Portsmouth*, *Boston*, and other places in *New-England*. If I forget her, let my right-hand forget her cunning. I think of, and pray for you and yours, and all my dear friends daily. O let us so live, that we may meet in heaven. You know the way; "JESUS is the way, the truth and the life." Walk before him, look continually to him, and you shall be enabled to trample upon sin, death, and hell. Excuse the brevity of this. Next time, GOD willing, you shall have a longer letter. My tender love awaits your dear spouse and family. You will remember me to all enquiring friends, and as GOD enables, you shall all be remembered by, dear Mr. *D*——,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCX.

To Mr. A——.

New-York, Aug. 27, 1747.

TO convince you that I remember your desire when at *Boston*, I send you almost my first letter. It comes full

of

of thanks for all paſt favours. May the GOD whom I ſerve, reward you ten thouſand fold! He will, he has promiſed, he alſo will do it. Will you give me leave to aſk one favour more? You may gueſs what it is. I beſeech you to entreat the giver of every good and perfect gift to grant me an humble and a thankful heart; for indeed, mercies are renewed to me every moment. GOD has given me a pleaſant journey, and brought me this day to *New-York* in ſafety. My health is conſiderably reſtored, and I know not why my dear friends yet cruelly hinder me. Well, GOD's will be done! O that it may be to the Redeemer's glory, and the good of precious and immortal ſouls! I am of the ſame mind as when at *Boſton*,—reſolved to preach and work for JESUS, 'till I can preach and work no more. I doubt not, but in your ſphere, you are like-minded. May the LORD ſtrengthen, ſtabliſh, ſettle you in it, and give you to abound in every good word and work. CHRIST is a good Maſter: he is worthy of all our time, and of every thing that we poſſeſs. Is not one heart too little for him? And yet he requires no more. Amazing love! I am loſt when I think of it. I can only ſay, LORD, I adore and worſhip! But how does dear Mrs. *A*——? Bid her, not be faithleſs, but believing. JESUS ſhall do more for her than ſhe can aſk or think. I ſalute you both moſt heartily, as does my dear yoke-fellow.—That JESUS may plentifully reward you for all favours, and give you ſo to live here, that you may ſit at his right-hand eternally hereafter, is the hearty prayer of, dear Mr. *A*——,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCXI.

To Mr. W——, at Portſmouth.

New-York, Aug. 27, 1747.

Very dear Sir,

IS it right when we have committed a fault, to perſiſt in, and not confeſs and amend it? By no means. I muſt therefore write to you, whom (though you have received no letter from me) I dearly love in the bowels of the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS. I thank you, dear Sir, for all favours, and exhort

you, as the beſt return I can make, to walk worthy of that GOD, who has called you to his kingdom and his glory. May you be enabled to live above, and overcome the world! O that JESUS may be at all times, your only All! O that you may look up continually to him for light, life, and every thing! Then will he direct your ſteps, and cauſe every change and ſcene of life to be a means of changing and transforming your dear ſoul more and more into his own divine likeneſs. You are ſhortly to enter into a new and untried ſtate. Dear Sir, call JESUS and his Diſciples to your marriage; marry in and for the LORD, or your life will be exceedingly uneaſy and miſerable. Remember, that new ſtates call for new ſtrength. Let your eyes then be fixed on JESUS. From him every good and perfect gift cometh. He alone can teach you to uſe the world, and every worldly enjoyment, ſo as not to abuſe it. I commend you to his tender mercy. I pray continually for you, and humbly intreat you to remember unworthy, ungrateful, ill and hell-deſerving me. I can now only moſt heartily thank you for all favours, beg to be remembered to all friends, and ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Yours in Him that liveth for ever,

G. W.

LETTER DCXII.

To the Rev. Mr. G. T——.

New-York, Aug. 29, 1747.

Rev. and very dear Sir,

NOT want of love, but of leiſure, has prevented my writing to you for ſome time paſt. Bleſſed be GOD, I can now ſend you good news from the Northward. My reception at *Boſton*, and elſewhere in *New-England*, was like unto the firſt. Arrows of conviction fled and ſtuck faſt. Many, I hear, were wounded. Congregations were rather larger than ever, and oppoſers mouths were ſtopped. Will you now take another trip? I believe it would be bleſt to the good of your own and many other ſouls. I would be more particular, did I not expect to ſee you next week. I am better in health than when I left *New-York*. GOD gives me grace to ſpend it to the utmoſt in the Redeemer's ſervice. I am determined in his ſtrength,

to

to die fighting, though it be upon my ſtumps. I truſt you pray for me. I remember you and your flock. I ſalute all tenderly, and am, Rev. and very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate younger brother
and ſervant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCXIII.

To Mr. Henry S——, Junior.

New-York, Aug. 29, 1747.

My dear Mr. S——,

LAST *Thurſday* noon the keeper of *Iſrael*, who neither ſlumbereth or ſleepeth, brought me hither in ſafety. We were detained three days on the water. It was over-ruled for good. I recovered my appetite, and am now much better than when I left *New-England*. Next *Tueſday*, GOD willing, I ſhall ſet forward, and hope to be at *Charles-Town* the beginning of *November*. Will you write to me? GOD willing, you ſhall hear from me every opportunity. I have good news from *Providence*, my plantation in *South-Carolina*, and from *Betheſda:* both families are well, and ſeveral negroes are under conviction. I hope thoſe that were under concern at *Portſmouth*, find their convictions to abide. I pray GOD, they may have no reſt, 'till they find reſt in JESUS CHRIST! I ſalute them, and all the Redeemer's true followers. I join with my dear yoke-fellow, in ſending you, and dear Mrs. *S*——, ten thouſand thanks for all favours, and am, very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged friend and brother, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCXIV.

To Mr. D——.

New-York, Aug. 30, 1747.

MY dear brother *Daniel*, thou man greatly beloved, why weepeſt thou? Why art thou ſo caſt down? All is forgiven, all is forgotten long ago; be ſtrong, and GOD ſhall eſtabliſh thy heart. Look up, and put thy truſt in the LORD. He is a merciful Redeemer; otherwiſe what could worthleſs, ungrateful, unfruitful, ill, hell-deſerving I do? O how great is his love to us-ward! How kindly hath he brought me to

New-York! Pray let your mourning be turned into praiſe, and give thanks to the LORD of all lords in behalf of your unworthy friend. You are my old friend. I have loved thee, and do love thee with a peculiar love. May the LORD increaſe thee more and more, even thee and thy children! I ſend you and yours moſt cordial ſalutations. We ſet out, GOD willing, to-morrow on our ſouthern journey. I have good news from the Orphan-houſe, and my new Plantation. Some negroes are brought under conviction. Mr. *B*—— was well the latter end of *July*. I ſhall take care of his father's letter. My dear yoke-fellow intends writing to you ſoon. In the mean while accept hearty love from, yours as uſual,

G. W.

LETTER DCXV.

To Mrs. S——, at New-York.

Philadelphia, Sept. 6, 1747.

SHALL I promiſe and not perform? GOD forbid. I muſt then drop a line to my afflicted friend. How is your little one? Is it yet languiſhing? Is it quite emaciated and panting for breath? Or is it gone into the world of ſpirits? Whatever be your anſwer, I am ready to reply, Remember your father *Abraham*; how chearfully did he offer up his dear *Iſaac*, his ſon, whom he loved? How kindly did the LORD take it at his hands? Go thou and do likewiſe. If JESUS hath reſtored it to you, nurſe it for him; pray to him continually for grace to order it aright, and learn how ſoon GOD may imbitter the deareſt comforts to us. Happy, happy they, who can lean on and truſt in JESUS, whilſt they are going through this howling wilderneſs, this world of woe. I truſt you are one of theſe happy ones. O free grace! Sovereign, electing, diſtinguiſhing love! You will join with me in ſaying, "Why me, LORD, why me?" I could enlarge. Whilſt I am writing, the fire kindles; but my Maſter's buſineſs calls me away. He is with me here. Remember the Pilgrims. My dear yoke-fellow is gone forward; perhaps I may follow this week. I deſire to be remembered in the kindeſt manner to dear Mr. *S*—— *P*——, wife, and all friends. I thank them and you a thouſand times for all favours, and am, dear Mrs. *S*——,

Your affectionate and willing ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXVI.

To Captain S———.

Philadelphia, Sept. 9, 1747.

My very dear Mr. S——,

THOUGH I wrote to you lately by my friend Mr. *V——*, yet the receipt of your kind letter makes me to write again. The deadly blow I see is given. Well! Thanks be to GOD, you are so resigned. You doubtless remember, that you took one another only "'till death you should part." That *shocking clause*, as Mr. *B*— calls it, is very instructive. Blessed be GOD, that she gave you any comfortable evidences of her being for ever with the LORD. If so, do not wish her here again, but remember how soon your own great change must necessarily come. You are now on the decline of life. You have seen that all below is vanity. O that you may bring forth much fruit in old age! Take heed, watch and be sober, since you know not at what hour the blessed bridegroom may come to call you. I write thus freely to you; because you are pleased to stile me your father. Pray for me then, that I may give to JESUS all the glory, and study to glorify him more and more. Next *Monday*, GOD willing, I intend leaving this place. Be pleased to acquaint our dear friend Mr. *V*—— that I intend writing to him soon. I hope he reached home in safety. I salute him, Mr. *P*———, and all friends most heartily. Accept of the same yourself, in the most cordial manner, from, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXVII.

To Mr. W———.

Very dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Sept.* 9. 1747.

LAST night I heard of Dr. *Coleman*'s sudden death. I bless GOD for granting him such an easy passage. Soon after the news reached me, I bowed my knee before the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS in behalf of your bereaved (and I could almost say desolate) church. O may the LORD

of

of all lords direct you in the choice of another, who may rule and feed you diligently with all his power. I shall be glad to hear what the great head of the church does for you. You may direct to me at *Charles-Town*. GOD willing, I set forward on my journey *Monday* next. Our glorious *Emmanuel* has been pleased to open my mouth, and enlarge my heart in preaching the unsearchable riches of his grace.—I hope my dear *Boston* friends are warm and lively. I salute all most heartily. Pray remember the poor pilgrims; and if you write to *Scotland* or *South-Carolina*, let them know how affairs go. My dear yoke-fellow is gone to *Bohemia*, otherwise she would write. I intend writing to dear Mr. *S*——— by next post. In the mean while, I beg leave to subscribe myself, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCXVIII.

To Mr. and Mrs. F——.

Philadelphia, Sept. 9, 1747.

My very dear, dear Friends,

THOUGH I hope to see you ere this reaches *Charles-Town*, yet I cannot but embrace every opportunity that offers to let you know how we do. I have lately been eleven hundred miles journey northward, and have found the Redeemer's strength magnified in my great weakness. The word ran and was glorified. I am now posting towards, and hope to reach you the beginning of *November* next. I am better in health than usual, and through grace am determined to die fighting the Redeemer's battles. On *Long Island* I saw Mr. *B*——. He still loves his *Charles-Town* friend. If you are not provided, it is my opinion, that it is best for you, for him, and the church of CHRIST, that he should be at *Charles-Town*. But this is only my opinion. With this, you will receive a packet of letters from him. If it be not done before you receive this, I wish you would be pleased to send my bureau, with my other things that were packed up, to *Providence*. I would not willingly have it to do when I come to *Charles-Town*. I hear you have had a dry season. I trust it has not been so in spi-

rituals. O that JESUS may water you every moment! I think you may plead this promise before a prayer-hearing GOD; "He that watereth, shall be water'd again." Surely the bowels of the saints have been, and are daily refreshed through your means. Happy ye that are determined to make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness. When natural lives fail, you shall be received into everlasting habitations. O happy time, when we shall be, soul and body, for ever with the LORD! I have lived in hopes some time, that my departure was at hand; but I seem to be gathering strength again, and trust shall be made instrumental in calling some more souls to the precious JESUS. O that I may be humble and thankful! Dear friends, pray for us.—My dear wife is gone to *Bohemia*, otherwise she would write. We have written by every ship. Some of our letters, I believe, have been taken. Our tender love to all. I am,

Ever yours, whilst

G. W.

LETTER DCXIX.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Philadelphia, Sept. 9, 1747.

My very dear Mr. H——,

I Thank our gracious GOD for all the good news contained in your kind letter. It gladened my heart, and gave me reason to hope, that the *Indian* land would be a christian land indeed. When I received your letter, I was just returned from an eleven hundred miles journey northward, in which the rock of ages was pleased to let much of his glory pass before his dear people. I was enabled to preach about 30 times in *New-England*, and am now coming forward towards you, and hope to see you in *November*. My dear yoke-fellow would answer Mrs. *H*——, but she is gone to *Bohemia*. Accept thanks and love in her name. I have been frequently at the gates of death within these few months, and thought to have reached my desired port; but it seems I must put out to sea again. My heavenly Father's will be done. I have good news from *England*. I have some thoughts of seeing it next year. JESUS will direct me. Captain *Grant* is sailed from

from *Jamaica*. Ere long I hope to owe no man any thing but love. Something conſiderable hath been done ſince I left *Charles-Town*. The LORD will never fail thoſe that put their truſt in him. I have remembered the book with the hymn tunes. I hope we ſhall not differ about an earthly matter. We are brethren; let us dwell in unity, and the GOD of love and peace will dwell amongſt us. O that his divine love may be ſhed abroad abundantly in our hearts by the Holy Ghoſt! How ſhall we then bear with, and forbear one another? I hope all around you are well, and watered with ſpiritual as well as natural rain. I ſalute all moſt tenderly; and hoping to ſee you ſhortly, I ſubſcribe myſelf, very dear Mr. *H*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCXX.

To the Rev. Mr. T——.

Philadelphia, Sept. 10. 1747.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Suppoſe, ere this comes to hand, you will have heard how near I have been to my wiſhed-for harbour, and how I have been obliged to put out to ſea again. Bleſſed be GOD, ſince I muſt live, he does not permit me altogether to live in vain. The word ran and was glorified much in *New-England*. The gathering of the people, and the power that attended the word ſeemed to be near the ſame as when the work begun ſeven years ago. I parted from my friends with great reluctance. Since my coming ſouthward, I have ſeen and dined with Governor *B*——. He till retains his former affection, and I hope will be a great bleſſing to theſe parts. I have lately heard of the death of Doctor *Coleman*. I pity his poor congregation, fearing it will much dwindle. There are now many deſtitute flocks in *New-England*. Mr. *B*——'s death hath taught me a good leſſon. May the LORD JESUS keep me from trimming! ſomething conſiderable hath been done ſince I ſaw you, towards eaſing me of my Orphan-houſe embarraſſments. The particulars expect in *November*: then I

hope to see you once more. I still intend, GOD willing, to see *Bermudas*. Blessed be GOD, I have good news from *Bethesda* and *Providence*. I am helped here, as I was at *New-York*, in preaching; but find little conviction-work going on. As you observe, "that is GOD's work." I hope you have been carried comfortably through the Summer's heat, and that we shall have a warm Winter when we meet at *Charles-Town*. Your father's child is dead. I have a letter for you from him. I salute you and all for my dear yoke-fellow, who is gone forward to *Bohemia*. I follow on *Monday* next. You will remember me in the kindest manner to all. I have written to many friends, but believe the vessels have been taken in which the letters were sent. I have now just time to beg the continuance of your prayers, and subscribe myself, Rev. and very dear Sir,

Yours as usual,
G. W.

LETTER DCXXI.

To Mr. H—— H——.

Philadelphia, Sept. 11, 1747.

My very dear Brother,

I Wrote to you within these few months from this place, *Boston* and *New-York*. My last letters were to inform you, that, GOD willing, some time next year I purpose to see *England*, if my outward affairs can be settled. Surely the LORD will deliver me from money matters by and by.—He will, he will.—LORD, I believe, help my unbelief! I have good news from *Georgia*, and from my new plantation in *South-Carolina*. Many negroes are brought under conviction. We saw great things in *New-England*. The flocking and power that attended the word, was like unto that seven years ago. Weak as I was, and have been, I was enabled to travel eleven hundred miles and preach daily. I am now once more going to *Georgia* to settle all my affairs, and shall get ready to embark as soon as I receive letters from you. My dear yoke-fellow is gone forwards. She exceedingly longs to see her old friends. But death may intervene. I have been daily waiting for it. Few have expected my life, but at present I seem to be getting strength.

ſtrength. By the grace of GOD, it ſhall all be employed in the dear Redeemer's ſervice. I find no inclination to ſettle. My heart (O free grace!) is yet ſpringing for GOD, and I am determined to die fighting. I hope matters go on well with you. Indeed I remember you daily, and pray that you all may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. I am here travelling through a wilderneſs; but I truſt leaning on my beloved. JESUS is my rock, my ſtay, my GOD, and my all. Various are the ſcenes I paſs through; various are the comforts and ſupports I meet with. Sometimes the LORD feeds me as it were by the ravens, and teaches me daily that man's extremity is his opportunity to help and ſuccour. O, my dear brother, if ever we meet in this world, how much have we to ſay to one another, concerning the loving-kindneſſes of the LORD? But when we meet in heaven.—I am loſt at the thought—What!

Make ſlaves the partners of thy throne,
Deck'd with a never-fading crown?

O JESUS! thy love is indeed immenſe, unſearchable.—Shed it abroad in the dear man's heart to whom I am writing, and the hearts of all with whom he is concerned, and the hearts of all thy dear children. Even ſo, LORD JESUS. Amen! I can no more. My heart is almoſt too full to ſubſcribe myſelf

Ever yours,
G. W.

LETTER DCXXII.

To the Rev. Mr. J. W———.

Philadelphia, Sept. 11, 1747.

Dear and Rev. Sir,

NOT long ago I received your kind letter, dated in *February* laſt. Your others I believe came to hand, and I hope ere now you have received my anſwer. My heart is really for an outward, as well as an inward union. Nothing ſhall be wanting on my part to bring it about; but I cannot ſee how it can poſſibly be effected, 'till we all think and ſpeak the ſame things. I rejoice to hear, that you and your brother

are

are more moderate with respect to *sinless perfection*. Time and experience I believe will convince you, that attaining such a state in this life, is not a doctrine of the everlasting gospel. As for *universal redemption*, if we omit on each side the talking for or against reprobation, which we may do fairly, and agree as we already do in giving an universal offer to all poor sinners that will come and taste of the water of life, I think we may manage very well. But it is difficult to determine such matters at a distance. Some time next year, (if the Redeemer spares my life) I hope to see you face to face. In the mean while, the language of my heart is,

O let us find the ancient way,
Our wond'ring foes to move;
And force the heathen world to say,
See how these brethren love.

I rejoice to find that the rebellion has been over-ruled for the awakening of many souls. Our LORD generally builds his temple in troublesome times. I cannot, upon the maturest deliberation, charge myself with a design to flatter in my sermon on that occasion. You know my attachment to the present establishment. Out of the fulness of my heart my pen wrote. But it may be I know not myself. LORD, keep me from trimming! At present, my heart seems as free for JESUS as ever. I have been once more in *New-England*. My entrance was as at the first, about seven years ago. Perhaps I may embark from thence for my native country. Our LORD will direct. I am now going to *Georgia* to winter. At *New-York* and here, JESUS has enlarged my heart, and opened my mouth to shew forth his praise. I have news of the awakening of several negroes at my new plantation, lately purchased at *South-Carolina*. I hope ere long to be delivered from my outward embarrassments. I long to owe no man any thing but love. This is a debt, Reverend Sir, I shall never be able to discharge to you, or your brother. JESUS will pay you all. For his sake, I love and honour you very much, and rejoice as much, in your success as in my own. I cannot agree with you in some principles, but that need not hinder love; since I trust we hold the foundation, even "JESUS, the same yesterday, to-day and for ever." Will you salute, in the kindest manner,

all

all the followers of the Lamb within your sphere of action? Grace, mercy and peace be multiplied upon all their dear souls! I thank them for remembering a poor pilgrim, who though faint is still pursuing, and determined, in the strength of JESUS, to spend and be spent more and more for the good of poor sinners. Perhaps before I see you, I may visit *Bermudas* and *Cape-Breton*. You will pray that the LORD may order my steps aright. What have you done with the *Moravian Brethren?* their affairs are in confusion here. I think their foundation is too narrow for their superstructure. I believe in their plan there are many plants that our heavenly Father hath not planted. The LORD bless what is right, and rectify what is wrong in them, in us, and in all. Even so, LORD JESUS, Amen! — O for heaven! where we shall mistake, judge, and grieve one another no more. Lately I thought myself sailing several times into the blessed harbour; but it seems I must put out to sea again. My Redeemer's will be done! Forgive, Reverend Sir, the prolixity of this. Love indites. I salute you for my dear fellow pilgrim, who is gone forwards.—Continue to pray for us, and assure yourself, that you are always remembered by, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, though unworthy younger brother and willing servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXIII.

To the Rev. Mr. C—— W——.

Very dear Sir, *Philadelphia, Sept.* 11, 1747.

BOTH your letters and your prayers I trust have reached me. May mine reach you also, and then it will not be long ere we shall indeed be one fold under one Shepherd. However, if this should not be on earth, it will certainly be effected in heaven. Thither I trust we are hastening apace. Blessed be GOD that you are kept alive, and that your spiritual children are increasing. May they increase more and more! JESUS can maintain them all. He wills that his house should be full. Some have wrote me things to your disadvantage. I do not believe them. Love thinks no evil of a friend. Such are you to me. I love you most dearly. I could

could write to you much more, but time and business will not permit. You will see my letter to your dear brother. That you may be guided into all truth, turn thousands and ten thousands more unto righteousness, and shine as the stars in the future world, for ever and ever, is the hearty prayer of, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCXXIV.

To the Rev. Mr. M——. Moody

Bohemia, (Maryland) Sept. 17, 1747.

Honoured Sir,

WILL you permit a young soldier of JESUS CHRIST to write to an experienced veteran, before he goes hence, and is no more seen? Sorry am I that my visit to *York* was short, yet glad that our LORD gave me to see you once more ready to sing your *Nunc dimittis* with steadiness and composure, if not with joy unspeakable, even a joy that is full of glory.—Happy, thrice happy, Reverend Sir! You have gone through that wilderness, which if hoary hairs should be my lot, awaits me your younger son and servant. Well! this is my comfort: I have the same Beloved to lean on, as you have had. The way, though narrow, is not long; the gate, though strait, opens into life eternal. O that I might pass through it when young; but, Father, not my will, but thine be done! Honoured Sir, be pleased to pray for me. I remember you and your dear flock, whom I love in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. May he who kissed away the soul of his beloved *Moses*, appoint a *Joshua* to succeed you, when he bids you come up to the mount and die! I hope my cordial respects will find acceptance with your dear yoke-fellow. I remember what she said to me, and once more beg a continued interest in your prayers. I beg leave to subscribe myself, honoured Sir,

Your most affectionate tho' unworthy younger son
and willing servant in him that liveth for ever,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXV.

To the Rev. Mr. M—— Jun.

Bohemia, Sept. 17, 1747.

I Have been writing to the father,—Love, love unfeigned conſtrains me to write to the ſon alſo. I hope it will influence you to ſend me, however unworthy, a line or two in return. Reverend and dear Sir, how do you? Are you yet GOD's mouth to the people? Surely if the prayers of faith keep me alive, the prayers of faith muſt open your mouth, and conſtrain you in preaching to ſhew forth your glorious Redeemer's praiſe. All things are poſſible with GOD.

Bleſt is faith, that truſts his power;
Bleſt are ſaints, that wait his hour;
Haſte, great Conqueror, bring it near,
Let the wiſh'd-for thing appear.

But you do not like that I ſhould write about yourſelf? Will you then permit me to tell you, that in ſpite of all my corruptions, JESUS ſtill continues to bleſs unworthy me. He gave me a proſperous journey to *New-York*, and there, as well as at *Philadelphia*, he opened my mouth to ſhew forth his praiſe. My outward circumſtances are made eaſier, and I truſt, in a ſhort time I ſhall owe no man any thing but love. I am now poſting ſouthward, willing to follow the cloud whereſoever it ſhall point in the ſpring. O pray, pray that JESUS may be my comforter and my guide. Great are my trials, but greater my conſolations. O free, rich, and ſovereign grace! Help me, dear Sir, to extol and praiſe it. You will remember me to all. Your * *fidus achates*, and your dear faithful nurſe, I ſhall never forget. When you go to *Kittery*, pray make my moſt dutiful reſpects acceptable to Sir *William* and his conſort. Wiſhing you, what Colonel *Gardiner* once wiſhed me, "A thriving ſoul in a healthful body," I ſubſcribe myſelf, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

* Boſom friend.

LETTER

LETTER DCXXVI.

To Mr. J—— S——.

Bath-Town, North Carolina, Oct. 6, 1747.

Very dear Sir,

I Wrote you a few lines juſt as I was leaving *Bohemia*. They informed you of the receipt of my bills, and by them I alſo deſired you to pay the remainder of what you have of mine into the hands of Mr. *D—— V——* of *New-York*. Since that, I have poſted forward here, and hope to ſee ſome ſouls in this province all in love with JESUS, and made partakers of the power of his Reſurrection. I have preached three times, and purpoſe, GOD willing, to preach many times more. The LORD ſeems to have given me the affections of the people, and I am determined in his ſtrength to ſee what can be done amongſt them. The box of books ſent hither from Mr. *K——* and *G——* never came to hand. Be pleaſed to make ſome enquiry about it. I preached once in *Virginia*, and would have preached oftner; but the ſmall-pox was ſpreading, the aſſembly did not ſit, and I wanted to let *North-Carolina* have as much time as I could. I hope to write to you again from *Charles-Town*. There, I ſhall be glad to hear that the all-wiſe head of the church hath directed you to a ſuitable paſtor in the room of Dr. *Coleman*. I ſometimes think all will go to heaven before me. I am weak and faint, I long to be diſſolved and to be with JESUS, but cannot die. My heavenly Father's will be done! I would have you ſtill pray for me, as a dying man; but O pray that I may not go off as a ſnuff. I would fain die blazing, not with human glory, but the love of JESUS. I wiſh you, and yours, and all dear friends, as much of this as your hearts can hold. I remember you daily and hourly. I will thank you in heaven for what you have done for me on earth, and till then ſhall ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Yours in the beſt bonds,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXVII.

To Mrs. S——.

Bath-Town, North-Carolina, Oct. 6, 1747.

Dear Madam,

BE pleaſed to accept this, as a token that you are not forgotten by me;—no, I loved your deceaſed huſband, I honour and pray for his dear and ſorrowful relict. I would give you that advice, dear Madam, which I believe he would do, was he to riſe from his grave, "Make ſure of a CHRIST, and give the LORD no reſt, till you can ſay, my maker is my huſband, the LORD of Hoſts is his name." What have you now to do, Madam, but to make ſure of a CHRIST? You are deſolate, why ſhould you not put your truſt in the LORD? Widows, godly miniſters widows, are GOD's peculiar care. O that you may have reaſon to ſay, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted." Now is your time to learn GOD's law. Come to JESUS, Madam, cloſe with him, and give him your whole heart. I need not tell you, that he will make you happy. He has made me ſo, even me the chief of ſinners. As ſuch be pleaſed to pray for, dear Madam,

Your real, affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXVIII.

To Mrs. A——.

Bath-Town, North-Carolina, Oct. 6, 1747.

Dear Madam,

BE where I will, the LORD JESUS puts you upon my heart. I often think you happy, becauſe you are ſo circumſtanced that you muſt neceſſarily drink of the waters of life at the fountain head. It drinks ſweeteſt from thence. Communion with GOD's children is ſweet; but communion with GOD himſelf is infinitely ſweeter. The woman of *Samaria* found it ſo. When the diſciples came and interrupted her fellowſhip with their maſter, ſhe left her water pot and went her way. Bleſſed be GOD, that happy time is coming when we ſhall enjoy both him and his without interruption. Till

then,

then, dear Madam, be content to have little or much of the company of CHRIST's people, as your heavenly father shall judge most convenient. Heaven is before you, time is flying on eagles wings. Eternity, an happy eternity awaits you when time shall be no more. O that it would approach faster to me! But why so hasty, O my soul! In heaven thou canst not deny thyself for JESUS CHRIST! Dear Madam, pray for me, that my will may be swallowed up in the will of GOD. That it may be so with you, is the hearty prayer of, dear Madam,

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXIX.

To Mr. P———.

Bath-Town, North-Carolina, Oct. 6, 1747.

Dear Mr. P——,

OUR affectionate parting is not yet out of my remembrance. Since that, I hope you have been diligent, and ere now have got an evidence that we shall not be parted hereafter. O for assurance! It is indeed the anchor of the soul. It keeps it steady in the midst of storms. Dear Sir, press after it, as you value your present as well as eternal welfare. Tell the LORD JESUS, you cannot do without it. I once thought dear Mr. *P*—— would be one of the first-rate christians in *New-England*. What hath hindered you? Whatever it be, whether a right hand or a right eye, may the LORD JESUS take it away! Will you say *Amen* heartily? You will excuse this freedom. I always write so to those I love. Pray remember me to your mother, wife, and all friends. Tell them I am here, hunting after sinners in *North-Carolina* woods. It is pleasant work, though my body is weak and crazy. After a short fermentation in the grave, it will be fashioned like unto CHRIST's glorious body. The thought of this rejoices my soul, and makes me long to leap my seventy years. O pray for me, that I may have patience to tarry the LORD's leisure. I commit you to his care. I charge

you in his great name, not to let me miſs you in heaven, and with much love ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Mr. *P*——,

Your very affectionate friend, and willing ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXX.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Mr. S——, *Oct.* 6, 1747.

LET who will be omitted when I am writing to *New-England*, I think, I am under many obligations not to forget you. Bleſſed be GOD for making you a chriſtian merchant, and teaching you the holy art of trafficking for the LORD. You trade upon a ſafe bottom. Your all is inſured, and you ſhall receive your own with good uſury at the great day. Go on, my dear man, ſpend and be ſpent for CHRIST's people; it is a glorious employ. I would not but be thus engaged for millions of worlds. It is true, I am decaying daily; but reſolved in the ſtrength of JESUS to die fighting. At preſent I am engaged in *North-Carolina*, and hope ere long to ſend you good news from this ungoſpelized wilderneſs. In about a month I expect to ſee *Charles-Town*. The LORD direct me where to go in the Spring. Several ways preſent. I am willing to ſee more of the north before I return to my native country. But alas! why write I thus? How many important hours will intervene? O that every minute may be employed for GOD, even a GOD in CHRIST. Indeed he is a good maſter. He wounds, but he heals alſo. He brings down, but raiſes up again. He humbles, but it is only in order to exalt his dear children. This you and I ſhall find, as we have found already, times without number, perfectly true, by happy experience. But I cannot enlarge. You will deliver the encloſed. I hope my laſt to the dear Meſſrs. *M*——'s came ſafe. I will write to more as buſineſs, opportunity, and health permit. In the mean while, accept our joint moſt cordial love to all dear, very dear friends. Accept the ſame to you and yours. I am, dear Sir,

Yours eternally in the everlaſting I AM,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXXXI.

To Mr. R——.

Bath-Town, North-Carolina, Oct. 7, 1747.

Very dear Sir,

BY this time (such is your love to unworthy me,) I suppose you are willing to know where I am, and what I am doing. Blessed be GOD, I am still employed in my old delightful work, "calling poor sinners to repentance."—I trust a day of power will shortly come to *North-Carolina*. I have preached three times already, and am now going a small circuit round about. I expect to reach *Charles-Town* in a month's time. But give me leave in my turn to enquire, how it is with you and yours? Are your resolutions more and more invigorated, and hath JESUS at length taken possession of your whole heart? I must not let you alone, till you can fairly and truly say, "'Tis done, 'tis done." O what a revenue of glory might a person in your station bring to CHRIST, and what a radiant crown of grace might you secure to your own soul, was you but once in earnest to lay up treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal! Rise, rise, dear Sir, awake and sleep no more. JESUS waits to give you light. May he so fill you with his light and love, that you may rejoice in his great salvation all the day long! Pray let me hear from you in the Winter. I am more concerned for you than ever. Your late favours have increased my obligations to be so. I shall be glad to hear that the LORD hath given you a son. I remember dear Madam *R*——, and hope to drop her a few lines. May the glorious *Emmanuel* make little Miss a wise virgin. My love awaits Mrs. *H*——, and your whole household. You will remember me in the kindest manner to Mrs. *G*——, *L*——, &c. and the whole circle of my female friends. Praying that grace, mercy and peace may be multiplied upon all, I subscribe myself, dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXXII.

To the Reverend Mr. L——.

Bath-Town, North-Carolina, Oct. 11, 1747.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

IT has given me much concern, that I could not comply with your kind invitation to *Plymouth*; but providence plainly pointed my courſe another way. GOD only knows what a croſs it was to me, to leave dear *New-England* ſo ſoon. I hope death will not be ſo bitter to me, as was parting from my friends. Glad ſhall I be to be prayed thither again, before I ſee my native land. But future things belong to GOD. I would be juſt where he would have me, though it be in the uttermoſt parts of the earth. At preſent I am hunting after poor loſt ſinners in theſe ungoſpelized wilds. People are willing to hear, and bleſſed be the LORD of all lords, I am willing to preach. My body is yet weak. A little riding fatigues me; but he that has been, is, and I truſt will be my ſtrength, my ſupport, and my guide even unto death. Dear Sir, continue to pray for me. I wiſh you much of the divine preſence, and hope the LORD will yet make you a ſpiritual father to thouſands. Be pleaſed to remember me in the kindeſt manner to dear Mr. *F*——, and the whole circle of thoſe reverend brethren, who dare confeſs CHRIST's work, and CHRIST's truths. I ſalute your whole large fire ſide, and am, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCXXXIII.

To Mr. P——.

Bath-Town, Oct. 11, 1747.

Very dear Mr. P——,

I Am aſhamed to think that your ſhort though exceeding ſweet and kind letter, lies as yet unanſwered. Want of health and of time, (aſſure yourſelf) not want of love, has been the cauſe of it. The ſearcher of hearts alone knows, what a cordial reverential reſpect I bear your honoured father and mother, yourſelf, and dear ſiſter. I muſt not write much on this

this head, leſt my eyes ſhould guſh out with water. Sorry am I, very ſorry, dear Sir, that the church is not to have the benefit of your labours. But what ſhall we ſay? GOD is a ſovereign GOD. He muſt do what he will with his own. This comforts me, that I truſt you have learned to be in the world, and yet not of it. Well then, ſince it muſt be ſo, go, dear Sir, and trade for GOD. Let merchants ſee by your example, that JESUS CHRIST can make many ſaints in a ſtore. O may you daily taſte, and feel the efficacy of his all-atoning, heart-cleanſing, world-conquering, precious blood! I truſt this is dearer and weightier to me than ever. I am now proclaiming it in theſe uncultivated ungoſpelized deſarts. People hear with great attention, and I truſt ere long news will be heard in heaven, that ſome *North-Carolina* ſinners are born of GOD. I ſtayed but a ſmall time in *Virginia* and *Maryland*, that I might give this province the more time. I hope to be in *Charles-Town* in about a month, and ſoon after my arrival, expect to determine what courſe to take in the Spring. Several ways preſent themſelves. May JESUS direct me which to take! Weak as I am, I am willing to ſpend and be ſpent for that ever-lovely, ever-loving JESUS, who has done ſo much for, and borne ſo long with me. I am afraid ſome of you have prayed me back into the world again. Well, it cannot be long ere I get my diſmiſſion. O for a triumphant exit. LORD JESUS keep me from going off like a ſnuff! But it is time to bid you good night. I have been on a forty mile excurſion, and this tabernacle of mine is weak. You will remember me to all your dear family, and all friends. I will name none, that if poſſible I may offend none. However, this I muſt ſay, *New-England* friends are dearer to me than ever, and glad ſhall I be, if another ſight of them before I die, be permitted to, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXXXIV.

To Mr. D——.

Everards-Ferry, Oct. 16, 1747.

Dear Mr. D——,

THE love I owe you for JESUS CHRIST's ſake, induces me to ſend you a few lines. I hope they will find you yet more and more convinced of ſelf-righteouſneſs, and the abſolute neceſſity of being cloathed with the all-ſufficient, compleat and everlaſting righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST. This, and this only is the ground of our acceptance with a holy, juſt, and ſin-avenging GOD. Here the ſinner may find a ſure aſylum, an everlaſting, never-failing refuge. Happy they! who begin to ſee, feel, and taſte this, in a realizing ſpiritual manner. It is the budding of grace, the beginning of the kingdom of GOD in the ſoul. May I hope that dear Mr. *D*—— is one of theſe happy men. I truſt ſo. You ſeemed beginning to awake out of nature's dream when I left you. O that nothing may prevail on you to lie down to ſleep again! It is dangerous to trifle with the ſpirit of GOD. When he puts into our hearts good deſires, he expects that we ſhall be workers together with him. Strive therefore, or, as the word imports, *agonize* with GOD, yourſelf, and the world, in order that you may enter into the ſtrait gate of a thorough ſound converſion. You know who has told you "that the kingdom of GOD ſuffereth violence, and the violent only take it by force." And ſurely heaven is worth ſtriving for; eſpecially ſince we are ſure of a conqueſt; and JESUS CHRIST, the captain of our ſalvation, ſtands ready to aſſiſt, ſupport, and ſtrengthen at every rencounter. Learn therefore to endure hardneſs, like a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST: adopt *Joſhua*'s reſolution, ſtand the laugh, quit yourſelf like a man, put your hand to the plough, and do not look back; fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life. I could write more, but I want time and paper. Bleſſed be GOD, I am as well as a pilgrim in my way can expect to be. I am happy in CHRIST, and that is all in all. I wiſh you and yours this happineſs. I pray you may be partakers of it.

This is the beſt return I can make for all kindneſſes ſhewn to, dear Sir,

Your affectionate, obliged friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXXV.

To Mrs. D——.

Everards-Ferry, Oct. 16, 1747.

Dear Mrs. D——,

AS it is uncertain whether I ſhall ever ſee you again in this vale of tears, I cannot help expreſſing my gratitude for kindneſſes received, by ſending you a few lines. — And what ſhall I ſay? Why, that I truſt you at length ſee, that what the world calls an innocent, harmleſs, decent, ſober life, will not be ſufficient to carry us to heaven. Such a life I ſuppoſe you have led, and aſſure yourſelf, you will find it an hard work to give up ſuch a life in point of dependence, and to come as a poor, ill and hell deſerving wretch, to be waſhed in the blood and cloathed with the righteouſneſs of JESUS CHRIST. Nature will ſtruggle, and a reaſoning infidelity will ſtand at the door of your heart, leſt JESUS CHRIST's ſpirit ſhould enter in and make you happy. But all things are poſſible with GOD. Apply to him therefore, dear Madam, and beg him to let you ſee that your heart is deſperately wicked, and deceitful above all things. Strengthen your huſband's hands; be as a goad in his ſide, if you ſee him inclined (though I truſt you will not) to forget what he hath lately felt and been convinced of. And O that you may be an happy inſtrument of converting your two daughters! It is ſweet when all of one houſe are agreed to worſhip the LORD JESUS in ſpirit and in truth. That you and yours may be all ſuch worſhippers, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Madam,

Your real friend, and willing

ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXXXVI.

To Mr. T——— A———.

Wilmington, Cape-Fear, Oct. 18, 1747.

My very dear brother A——,

I Have lately written to you and many other dear *Engliſh* friends. I am now in my way to *Georgia*, and hope to ſee my native country ſome time next year. My ſphere of action ſtill increaſes, and though I hoped this laſt Summer to have taken my flight to the bleſſed JESUS, yet it ſeems I am to live longer. O that it may be for the Redeemer's glory, and the good of many precious and immortal ſouls! I know you will ſay *Amen!* I could write much, but am fatigued, having preached ſeveral times, and rode on horſe-back through the woods an hundred and ſixty miles. JESUS makes the barren wilderneſs to ſmile. I want to know how affairs go on among you. I expect letters from ſome of you at *Charles-Town*, and I hope to ſee you, I repeat it again, ſome time next year. But future things belong to GOD. My ſchemes are ſo frequently diſconcerted, that I would willingly put a blank into his hands, to be filled up juſt as he pleaſes. But this ſtubborn will would fain avoid ſwallowing ſome wholeſome bitter-ſweets, which the all-gracious phyſician reaches out unto me. Nevertheleſs, through grace, the prevailing language of my heart is, "Not my will, but thine be done." The being ſo long abſent from my friends, ſometimes a little affects me; but I have been uſed to ſo many partings, and heart-breakings from various quarters, that I wonder any thing affects, ſo as to ſurprize me. But the myſtery of the croſs is unſearchable. We ſhall never fully learn it till we die. We muſt be beginners in this ſchool every day, hour, and moment. But where am I going? I write as though I was converſing with you. Perhaps ſuch a time may come. In heaven I am ſure ſuch a time will have exiſtence. The language of my heart is, LORD JESUS, let thy kingdom come! You will remember me to all. I muſt now ſay no more. Whilſt I am writing, affection works and almoſt makes me to ſay, O that I had wings like a dove, for then would I fly away, and ſee my *Engliſh* and *Scotch* friends! I ſalute all moſt heartily, as does my dear fellow pilgrim.—That grace,

grace, mercy and peace may be multiplied upon all your dear souls, is the hearty prayer of, my dear Man,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXXVII.

To Mr. B——.

Charles-Town, (South-Carolina,) Oct. 25, 1747.

Very dear Mr. B———,

I Hear a ship sails to-morrow for *Philadelphia*. I cannot help letting you know, that we arrived here last night in health and safety. The barren wilderness was made to smile all the way. I trust good was done in *North-Carolina*. The poor people were very willing to hear. I expected, on my arrival at this place, to have received letters and sundry things from you, or dear Mr. *B*——. If they are taken, may the LORD JESUS give me a thankful heart! I would write you a long letter, and I would also write to many friends, but you know travellers are weary, and I must away to-morrow to *Georgia*. All is well there, and at my new plantation. You will send the inclosed.——Mr. *Dutton* I believe is lost in his return to *England*. The ship foundered. I have preached this morning, and am to preach again. I snatch a few moments between sermons to write this. Our tender joint love to you all.

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCXXXVIII.

To Mr. F———. Franklin

Bermudas, May 27, 1748.

My dear Mr. F——,

INCLOSED you have a letter which you may print in your weekly paper. It brings good news from this little pleasant spot. If you could print it on half a sheet of paper, to distribute among the *Bermudas* captains, it might perhaps be serviceable. The inhabitants here have received me so well, that I think publishing their kindness is a debt justly due to them. I am now waiting for a fair wind, and then we shall sail

fail for *England*. The Governor's lady goes with me. His Excellency is very civil to me, and I believe many souls have been benefited by this visit to *Bermudas*. I desire to give the LORD JESUS all the glory. You will remember me to Mrs. *F*——, and all my dear *Philadelphia* friends. I do not forget them, and hope they will always remember, dear Sir,

Their and your most affectionate,
obliged friend and servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCXXXIX.

To Mrs. F——.

On board the Betsy, June 2, 1748.

TILL last night, I did not know that the last letter I wrote to you never came to hand. Mr. *B*—— tells me, that as he did not go according to his design he destroyed it. Accept therefore, dear Madam, a few more parting lines. They bring you good news indeed. The LORD JESUS has blessed my being at *Bermudas* very much. A good work I trust is begun in many hearts. I am now on board, and the wind is fair. We expect to sail this day. According to my present view, I intend to return to beloved *America* next year; which is one of the reasons, why I leave my dear yoke-fellow behind. O that I knew how it was with her! But I see that GOD will make those he loves, to live by faith and not by sense. Glorious privileges, though difficult to flesh and blood! As you are so dear a friend, I know you will do your utmost to comfort her. I have so ordered matters, that she need not be under any concern about providing for the families. GOD has caused the people in *Bermudas* to devise liberal things. Yet a little while, and I trust I shall, on the Orphan-house account, owe no man any thing but love." But I find I must fight every inch of my ground. Well! JESUS is on my side. I can do all things through him strengthening me. An entrance is now made into the *Islands*. The LORD, that has begun, can and will carry on his own work. You will all help me with your prayers. I must be content with dealing in general salutations, having not time to write more particulars. Pray remember me in the kindest manner to all your relations and all our dear friends. That grace,

mercy,

mercy, and peace may be multiplied upon all, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Mrs. *T*——,

Your moſt affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant, in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXL.

To the Rev. Mr. S——.

On board the Betſy, June 24, 1748.

Rev. and very dear Sir,

THOUGH we are about two hundred leagues from land, yet leſt hurry of buſineſs ſhould prevent me when we get a ſhore, I think proper to write you a few lines whilſt I am on board.—Long before this reaches you, I ſuppoſe you will have heard of what the LORD of all Lords was pleaſed to do for me and his people at, and alſo when we ſailed from, *Bermudas*. We ſailed from thence juſt twenty-one days this morning, and have lived, as to the conveniencies of eating and drinking, like people that came from the continent, rather than one of the iſlands; ſo bountiful were our friends, whom we left behind us. Hitherto we have met with no ſtorms or contrary winds, only it begins to head us now. But GOD, in his own time, I truſt will carry us to our deſired port. The firſt day we came out we were chaſed, and yeſterday a large French veſſel ſhot thrice at and bore down upon us. We gave up all for gone. I was dreſſing myſelf in order to receive our expected viſitors. In the mean while, our Captain cries, "the danger is over." The Frenchman turned about and left us. He was quite near, and we almoſt defenceleſs. Now we are ſo near the channel, we expect ſuch alarms daily. If any thing happens extraordinary, I ſhall be particular. As for other things, I cannot ſay much. The Captain is exceeding civil, and I have my paſſage free; but all I have been able to do in the great cabbin in reſpect to religious duties, is to read the church prayers once every evening, and twice on the LORD's day. I have not preached yet; this may ſpare my lungs, but it grieves my heart. I long to be aſhore, if it was for no other reaſon. Beſides, I can do but little in reſpect to my writing. You may gueſs how it is, when we have four

gentle-

gentlewomen in the cabin. However, they have been, and are very civil, and I believe my being on board has been somewhat serviceable. My health I think is improved, and I have finished my abridgment of Mr. *Law*'s serious call, which I have endeavoured to gospelize. Yesterday I likewise made an end of revising all my journals. Blessed be GOD, for letting me have leisure to do it. I purpose to have a new edition before I see *America*. Alas! alas! In how many things have I judged and acted wrong.—I have been too rash and hasty in giving characters, both of places and persons. Being fond of scripture language, I have often used a style too apostolical, and at the same time I have been too bitter in my zeal. Wild-fire has been mixed with it, and I find that I frequently wrote and spoke in my own spirit, when I thought I was writing and speaking by the assistance of the spirit of GOD. I have likewise too much made inward impressions my rule of acting, and too soon and too explicitly published what had been better kept in longer, or told after my death. By these things I have given some wrong touches to GOD's ark, and hurt the blessed cause I would defend, and also stirred up needless opposition. This has humbled me much since I have been on board, and made me think of a saying of Mr. *Henry*'s, "*Joseph* had more *honesty* than he had *policy*, or he never would have told his dreams." At the same time, I cannot but bless, and praise, and magnify that good and gracious GOD, who filled me with so much of his holy fire, and carried me, a poor weak youth, through such a torrent both of popularity and contempt, and set so many seals to my unworthy ministrations. I bless him for ripening my judgment a little more, for giving me to see and confess, and I hope in some degree to correct and amend, some of my mistakes. I thank GOD for giving me grace to embark in such a blessed cause, and pray him to give me strength to hold on and increase in zeal and love to the end. Thus, dear Sir, have I unburdened my heart to you. I look upon you to be my *fidus achates*, and therefore deal thus freely. If I have time and freedom before we land, I think to write a short account of what has happened for these seven years last past; and when I get on shore, GOD willing, I purpose to revise and correct the first part of my life. I know you will pray that I may be directed and owned

in every thing. I think often of, and pray for you, and as I intend writing to you again when I send this, I shall content myself at present with subscribing myself, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate obliged though unworthy brother and servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCXLI.

To Mrs. L———.

Deal, July 5, 1748.

Very dear and Honoured Mother,

ARE you yet in the land of the living, or rather among the dead? shall I have the pleasure of receiving one more letter from you, and asking your blessing once more? Next post, I hope that the two former of these will be answered in the affirmative, and in a week or two I trust GOD will grant me the last. About a month ago I left the island of *Bermudas*, where my poor labours have been greatly blessed, and your unworthy son has been honoured with many honours. I am now come once more to see my friends in my native country, and settle some affairs, and then return to *America* again. My dear yoke-fellow I have left behind, to take care of two families. I have been several times just upon the brink of eternity since I saw you, but am now a little recruited. O that my health and strength may be wholly employed for that JESUS, who has done such great things for me! His blood and cross, my ever honoured mother, I trust are exceeding precious to your soul. O that I may see you laden with holiness, and bringing forth much fruit in your old age! I could say more, but have several other letters to write. As I know not how your outward affairs are situated, or where you live for a certainty, I can only send cordial and general salutations to all friends and relations. I hope you will be pleased to let me know whether you stand in need of any thing, and not cease to pray for, honoured mother,

Your ever dutiful though unworthy son,

G. W.

LETTER DCXLII.

To Mr. G—— H——.

Deal, July 5, 1748.

AND how does my dear old friend Mr. *H——?* Surely he will ſend me a line now! For through the goodneſs of an infinitely gracious and condeſcending Saviour, I am once more arrived at my native country. My laſt excurſion was to *Bermudas*. We left thoſe iſlands a month ago, and GOD was pleaſed to ſet his ſeal to my unworthy miniſtry in a very glorious manner. I know you will be thankful in my behalf, and let me know next poſt how the brethren are in and about *Glouceſterſhire*. I rejoice to find that you ſtill go on ſteadily and are not aſhamed of the goſpel of CHRIST. Why ſhould you? Have you not found it by happy experience to be the power of GOD unto ſalvation? Go on then, my dear Sir, and prove the ſtrength of JESUS to be yours. I long to ſee you, that we may talk of redeeming love, and feel our hearts warm with an holy fire from GOD's altar. Are the dear old men, the Reverend Meſſrs. *S——* and *P——*, yet alive? Pray ſend them my moſt dutiful and affectionate reſpects, and let them know, that an entrance I truſt is now made into one of the iſlands for the glorious goſpel of the Son of GOD. O that I was able to fly from pole to pole upon this bleſſed errand. But alas! my wings are clipped. My bodily health is much impaired, and I hoped ere now to have taken my laſt flight to heaven. But it ſeems that happy hour is not yet come. Well, welcome life, welcome death, ſo that JESUS, my dear JESUS, may be glorified in both! Pray that we may ſhortly meet in the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the goſpel of peace. I ſubſcribe myſelf, my very dear *Gaius*,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W

LETTER DCXLIII.

To the Rev. Mr. J—— or C—— W——.

Deal, July 5, 1748.

WILL you not be glad to hear that the GOD of the ſeas and the GOD of the dry land hath brought me

to my native country once more? I came last from the *Bermudas*, where the friend of sinners has been pleased to own my poor labours abundantly. I hope, I come in the spirit of love, desiring to study and pursue those things which make for peace. This is the language of my heart,

O let us find the ancient way,
Our wond'ring foes to move;
And force the heathen world to say,
See how these Christians love.

I purpose, GOD willing, to be in *London* in a few days. In the mean while, I salute you and all the followers of the blessed Lamb of GOD most heartily.—Be pleased to pray for, and give thanks in behalf of, Reverend and dear brother,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCXLIV.

To Mr. F———.

My very dear Friend, *London, July 7, 1748.*

I Have but just time to inform you, that after a pleasant passage of a month, a good and gracious GOD brought me hither in safety, where I have been received by thousands with a joy that almost overcame both them and me. I have preached once, and am this evening to preach again. One large church is open. I cannot now descend to particulars.—I can only send you a thousand thanks for all favours, beg my kindest salutations may be presented to all friends, and entreat the continuance of your most fervent prayers in behalf of, my dear host and hostess,

Yours as usual,

G. W.

LETTER DCXLV.

To Mr. H———.

My very dear Friend, *London, July, 7, 1748.*

THOUGH I suppose you will see my dear wife's letter, yet I must send you a few lines. They bring you news of my safe arrival, and wonderfully kind acceptance in my

native country. The bleſſings beſtowed on me, have already, through the thankſgivings of thouſands, redounded to the glory of GOD. Words cannot expreſs the joy that has poſſeſſed the hearts of the people. I hear that the minds even of enemies are much ſoftened. I came at a critical juncture. I hear Mr. —— has ſtood up for me at *C*——, and that one who preached before the truſtees hath ſpoke honourably of *Betheſda*. If GOD is pleaſed to ſend us a general peace, I hope *Georgia* will lift up its drooping head. You may depend on hearing from me as often as poſſible. You will remember me to all friends. I can only beg you to give thanks, and pray for, my very dear Sir,

Yours as uſual,

G. W.

LETTER DCXLVI.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Rev. and dear Brother, *London, July* 8, 1748.

GLAD am I, yea very glad to hear that you are yet alive and have grace given you to adhere to JESUS CHRIST and his eternal truths. I am very much pleaſed to find that you appear in print, and that ſuch encouragement is given you to print again. I hope the glorious *Emmanuel* ſmiles upon your miniſterial labours, and gives you many living witneſſes, that the truths which you preach are according to Godlineſs. Go on, my dear old friend, and prove the ſtrength of JESUS to be thine. Through his infinite and unmerited goodneſs I am once more ſafe in my native country. *Bermudas* was the laſt place where I have been preaching. I left many ſouls under concern. Many precious ſouls (O free grace!) have received me here in great love, and I have been enabled twice to preach, to a multitude of poor ſinners, the unſearchable riches of JESUS CHRIST. My bodily health is much impared; but through divine aſſiſtance, I will go on working for JESUS of *Nazareth*, 'till I can work no more. I could ſay much of his love, but have a deal of buſineſs before me. Accept this as a token of unfeigned love and reſpect from, my very dear Sir,

Your affectionate though unworthy brother
and ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXLVII.

To Mr. C——.

Dear Mr. C——, *London, July 8, 1748.*

I Am come over with a ſincere deſire to purſue the things which make for peace. Conſequently I muſt hear and ſee for myſelf, before I determine upon any thing. I have heard nothing of Mrs. *D*——'s writing concerning you. All I can ſay is, that by what you have publiſhed and I have peruſed, you have unhappily fallen into ſome principles, which are contrary to the revealed will of GOD.—But I ſpeak not this to begin a diſpute. I ſhall be glad to ſee and converſe with you. As for your preaching in *Moor-fields*, they are no doubt as free for you as another. I intend preaching there, GOD willing, on *Sunday* evening. That you may have a clear head and a clean heart, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCXLVIII.

To Mr. K——.

My dear Brother, *London, July 12, 1748.*

AT my firſt arrival, you judged right that I am pretty much taken up; however, I muſt ſnatch a few minutes to anſwer your kind, very kind letter. Bleſſed be GOD, that the mercies beſtowed on hell-deſerving me, have, through the thankſgivings of many, redounded to the glory of the bleſſed JESUS. O that the ſame prayers that have drawn me hither, may draw down ſhowers of bleſſings upon GOD's church. Now I am come, do you and my other friends continue to pray and hold up your hands, and in the ſtrength of JESUS CHRIST I will go on fighting. The fields ſeem to be as white as ever. I truſt the ſhout of a king is among us. O for humility, love and zeal! O for that mind, which was in CHRIST JESUS! I truſt that the members of your ſociety are copying after our great Exemplar. As ſoon as poſſible I purpoſe to come down and ſee you. I thank you for what you have done in reſpect to the Orphan-houſe. I could wiſh the caſh was remitted to *London* immediately, becauſe I want to

pay it away. Surely the time will come, when I ſhall owe no man any thing but love. Then, and 'till the day of my death, *Poor, yet making many rich*, ſhall be my motto. You will remember me in the kindeſt manner to all the followers of the Lamb; and that you may be filled with all his fulneſs, is the prayer of

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCXLIX.

To Mr. C——.

London, July 12, 1748.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

THOUGH I am pretty much engaged, yet I cannot let your kind letter lie by me two poſts unanſwered. Bleſſed be GOD that you yet retain your ſimple heart, and are determined to know nothing but JESUS CHRIST and him crucified. With this mind, may you climb up higher and higher in the church of *England*, in order that you may move in a ſuperiour orb, and your light ſhine with greater and more diffuſive ardor round the church of GOD! O my dear Mr. *C*——, what has the Redeemer done for us! What is he ſtill doing! It would gladden your heart to ſee what a turn affairs take in *London*. I have preached twice in *St. Bartholomew*'s church, and helped to adminiſter the ſacrament once. I believe on *Sunday* we had a thouſand communicants. *Moorfields* are as white as ever unto harveſt, and multitudes flock to hear the word. The old ſpirit of love and power ſeems to be revived amongſt us. What am I, what am I, that JESUS CHRIST ſhould ſtill delight to honour me? O for a ſingle eye and a ſimple heart unto the end! By what I can judge, ſatan will allure ſome with his golden bait. "In all times of our wealth, good LORD deliver us." Bleſſed be GOD, I am not much in danger of having too much of this world's goods at preſent. My outward affairs are yet behind hand. I long to owe no man any thing but love. As for your cautions, they ſhall be obſerved punctually. Never mind me, let my name die every where, let even my friends forget me, if by that means the cauſe of the bleſſed JESUS may be promoted. In

about

about a fortnight I hope to see you at my brother's. I hear he is better. O that he may come out for CHRIST! I think I have now answered your request, and sent you a long letter. I hope to hear from you again before I see you. My hearty respects await Mr. *G*———. I trust he determines to know nothing but JESUS CHRIST, and him crucified. Commending you to his mercy, and myself to the continuance of your prayers, I subscribe myself, very dear Sir,

Yours eternally in the blessed JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCL.

To the Honourable ——— *R*——, *Esq; of Bermuda.*

Honoured Sir, *London, July* 12, 1748.

GRATITUDE constrains me to embrace the first opportunity of informing you of our safe arrival at our wished-for port. We struck ground, I think, the 27th day after we set sail, and landed at *Deal* the 30th. We were chased the first afternoon, and prepared for going to prison twice or thrice. But our fears were groundless; there was a cessation of arms with *France*, though we knew it not, and some ships that we thought were pursuing us proved to be *English* men of war. We had plenty of provisions, and met with no storms or bad weather worth the speaking of. Other particulars, I suppose, Captain *E*——, who was very civil, will inform you. The evening after we landed at *Deal*, I was at Mr. *D*—— and *E*——'s, before I came to my own lodgings. They were very glad to hear from *Bermudas*. Since then, words cannot well express how joyful my friends were to see me once more in the land of the living. I find the news-papers had buried me ever since *April* last; but it seems I am not to die, but live: O that it may be to declare the works of the LORD! My obligations to do so, are much increased by the mercies conferred on me at *Bermudas*, and during my voyage. Surely the stones would cry out against me, did I not set forth the riches of redeeming love. Blessed be GOD, I have had several opportunities of doing so, since my arrival. Last Lord's-day I believe we had a thousand communicants. In a few weeks, GOD willing, I purpose to

see *Scotland*, and then shall do myself the pleasure of writing to, or waiting on your brother. In the mean time, I shall, as opportunity offers, write to some more of my *Bermudas* friends, whom I desire never to forget at the throne of grace. You and yours, honoured Sir, will be pleased to accept my most cordial salutations. That you and your house may serve the LORD here, and live with him eternally in the kingdom of heaven hereafter, is the hearty prayer of, honoured Sir,

Your most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCLI.

To Mr. H———.

London, July 16, 1748.

My very dear Mr. H——,

I Thank you for your speedy and kind answer to my last poor letter, and heartily pray GOD, if it be agreeable to his will, yet to prolong your life, and make your pen the pen of a ready writer. I shall take it as a great favour, if you will order me a set of your works. I shall peruse them with the greatest pleasure, and send a set of them also abroad. Blessed be GOD, for causing you to write so to suit the taste of the polite world! O that they may be won over to admire Him, who is indeed altogether lovely! But what shall I say to your kind intended present? It is like my dear old friend. Mr. —— was so kind as to come and see me yesterday. I shewed him your letter. He expects to see me at his house. GOD willing, if possible I will pay him a visit. O that he may recover his first love! For ever adored be free grace: many souls seem to be quickened. Multitudes flock to hear. My health somewhat improves, and our LORD makes it exceeding pleasant to me to preach to poor sinners his unsearchable riches. O when shall we get within the veil! Thanks be to GOD, it cannot be long. We are both sickly. LORD give us patience to wait till our blessed change come! To the Redeemer's tender mercy do I most earnestly commit you; and entreat, while life and breath lasts, you will not cease praying for one, who, though less than the least of all, yet for JESUS CHRIST's sake subscribes himself, my very dear friend,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCLII.

To Mr. K———.

Very dear Sir, *London, July, 19, 1748.*

I Thank you for your kind anſwer to my laſt, as well as for all other favours. Before I heard from you, I had been informed from ſeveral quarters, that Satan hath been ſifting all our poor ſocieties. This is no more than I expected. But let us take courage, dear Sir; JESUS CHRIST prays for us. His truths are great and ſhall prevail. At *London*, affairs ſeem to be taking a good turn. The LORD JESUS comes among us as in the days of old. I truſt by and by we ſhall ſee good days at *Exon* again. When I ſhall go there is uncertain. Next week, GOD willing, I muſt be at *Briſtol*, and after that I muſt go to the *Welch* aſſociation. Glad ſhall I be to hear whatever you have to offer. May the LORD JESUS give us a right judgment in all things! When the time of my ſeeing *Exon* is fixed, I will endeavour to ſend you previous notice. In the meanwhile, let you and yours accept moſt hearty love and cordial ſalutations from one, who, though leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, begs leave to ſubſcribe himſelf, very dear Mr. *K*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCLIII.

To the Reverend Mr. C——.

London, July 20, 1748.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

NEITHER length of time, nor change of place, I truſt, will ever eſtrange us from each other.—Though through the goodneſs of GOD I am now in *England*, yet I cannot help daily thinking upon you and my other dear friends in *America*. I have been prayed over hither: do you ſtrive to pray me over again to *South-Carolina*. Much buſineſs now lies upon my hands. It is too much for one man, to be received as I have been by thouſands. The thoughts of it lay me low, but I cannot get low enough. I would willingly ſink into nothing

thing before the bleſſed JESUS, my All in All. Next week I hope to ſee *Briſtol*, where I ſhall not fail to enquire about your miniſter, and ſend you word accordingly. I hope you do not forget *Bethesda* or *Providence*. O my dear yoke-fellow, how is ſhe carried through the Summer's ſultry heat? May the LORD be her helper! You will not fail to give my moſt cordial reſpects to Mrs. *B*——, Dr. *B*——, his wife, and all friends. Fail not, O fail not to pray heartily for,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCLIV.

To the Reverend Mr. D——.

London, July 23, 1748.

My very Dear Mr. D——.

GLAD was I, yea very glad to receive one more letter from ſuch a valuable and dearly beloved friend and brother. I have often enquired after you ſince my arrival, and only multiplicity of buſineſs prevented your hearing from me. Glory be to the bleſſed JESUS, for ſupporting and carrying you through ſo many difficulties that neceſſarily attend the paſtoral office. I find more and more, my dear Sir, that experience is only to be learned in the ſchool of tribulation; and as we undergo the ſufferings mentioned in the ſcriptures, ſo far and no farther do we underſtand the ſcriptures themſelves. O that patience may have its perfect work, and we may be enabled to the end of our days to ſanctify the LORD GOD in our hearts! As for poor *Scotland*, what ſhall I ſay? Our LORD's words muſt be fulfilled, "The firſt ſhall be laſt, and the laſt firſt." Awakening times are always like the Spring. Many bloſſoms appear, and perhaps but little ſolid fruit is produced after all. O that the Lord of the harveſt, if I am to ſee *Scotland* again, may ſend me to call ſome backſliders to return. Glory be to GOD, affairs are taking a happy turn here. Old love, and old power, ſeem to be reviving among us. I preach to multitudes daily. Many are already brought under new awakenings. On *Monday* next I ſet out, GOD willing, for *Glouceſter*, and intend returning in about three weeks.—How glad ſhall I then be to ſee Mr. *D*——. My

dear

dear yoke-fellow would rejoice to do so too; but I left her abroad in the tent.—Perhaps she may come over soon. Pray remember her, and, my dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCLV.

To Dr. R———.

Honoured Sir, *London, July* 22, 1748.

LOVE and gratitude constrain me to send you a few lines. They come to inform you, that a sense of the almost innumerable favours you was pleased to confer on me, when under your tuition, is yet deeply engraven upon the tables of my heart. That GOD, whom I endeavour to serve in the gospel of his dear Son, will richly reward you in that day. By his assistance, I still continue to preach the everlasting gospel in various places; and, I trust, not without some abiding good effect. Indeed, last year I was in hopes I should have been translated to those blissful regions, where the wicked cease from troubling, and where the weary be at rest. But it seems, I am not yet to die, but live. O that it may be to declare the works of the LORD! I think his glory is the main principle of my acting. I want to bring souls, not to a party, much less to lead them from the established church, but to a sense of their undone condition by nature, and to true faith in JESUS CHRIST, which will be evidenced by a holy life, and an universal, chearful obedience to all the commands of GOD. In this, honoured Sir, however you may judge of the means and method of my proceeding, I am persuaded you wish me success. Your's, both in respect to this life and another, I have much at heart. That the great shepherd and bishop of souls may assist you in the oversight of all under your care, and in the future state receive you with an *Euge bone*, in the presence of applauding angels, and spirits of just men made perfect, is the earnest prayer of, honoured Sir,

Your most unworthy, though dutiful pupil,
and very humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCLVI.

To Governor Thomas.

Honoured Sir, *London, July* 22, 1748.

THOUGH I am uncertain about your being in town, yet I cannot leave it, without leaving a few lines of acknowledgment, for thoſe many favours you and your worthy lady were pleaſed to confer upon me and mine abroad. Glad were we, yea exceeding glad to hear of your ſafe arrival in *England*, and gracious reception at court. May you ſo live in this world, as to be received with expreſſions of joy and approbation by the King of kings in the world to come! I hope, honour'd Sir, that the change of climate has been conducive to your health, and the health alſo of dear little Miſs, and her honoured Mamma. I beg my moſt dutiful reſpects may find acceptance, honoured Sir, both with them and you. At my return to *London*, which I ſuppoſe will be in about three weeks, I purpoſe doing myſelf the honour of waiting upon you in perſon. In the mean while, I beg leave, with the warmeſt affection, to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Sir,

Your moſt obliged, obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCLVII.

To the Reverend Mr. S——.

London, July 24, 1748.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

SINCE my arrival in *England*, (now three weeks) I have ſent ſeveral packets to *America*. This brings you the welcome tidings of the LORD's continuing to bleſs my poor adminiſtrations, and cauſing his word to run and be glorified. Particulars I cannot deſcend to now. My hands are quite full of buſineſs. I am aſſiſted alſo in temporals, and hope, ere I ſee *America* again, to be delivered from my outward Orphan-houſe embarraſſments. I have almoſt fixed on perſons to come over to *Bethesda*. With them I intend ſending you ſome things, which I believe you will be glad to ſee. *Antinomianiſm* has made havock here, but I truſt the worſt is over. Our

ſcattered

ſcattered troops begin to unite again; and indeed the ſhout of a king is amongſt us. I truſt that the glorious *Emmanuel* waves his banner alſo over you, and cauſes you to rejoice in his great ſalvation. That you, and all my dear friends and benefactors may ſit under his ſhadow with unſpeakable delight, is the hearty prayer of, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged friend,
brother, and ſervant in our common Lord,

G. W.

LETTER DCLVIII.

To the Reverend Mr. S———.

Waterford, Auguſt 3, 1748.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Have written to you more than once ſince my arrival; notwithſtanding that, I muſt write to you again. The bearer is a man of good report, a *Diſſenter*, and brings I believe a teſtimonial with him. He has met with diſappointments in the world, and goes out to be overſeer to ſome gentleman's plantation.—I believe he would be glad to be introduced to ſome of our religious friends. I write this from *Wales*, where I am come to attend on a quarterly aſſociation. Yeſterday I left *Briſtol*, where great multitudes came to hear, and the arm of the LORD was revealed. Next week, GOD willing, I purpoſe to return to *London*, and after a ſhort ſtay there, to go into the *Weſt* and other parts of *England*. I believe that *Ireland* and *Scotland* muſt be left till next Spring. I am as well in health as I have been for a long while; and GOD is pleaſed to give me the affections of his people, in a manner I dared not expect. But is there any thing too hard for the LORD? You will continue to pray for me. I expect a loving, chiding letter from you. I have ſeveral things to ſend you, and at preſent can only beg you and all friends to accept of my hearty love and thanks, and ſubſcribe myſelf, very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged friend,
and ſervant in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCLIX.

To Mr. Wm. G——.

Waterford, Auguſt 3, 1748.

My dear little Man,

I Do not forget the promiſe I made you when in town. As a proof of it, I ſnatch a few moments to ſend you a line. How will it find you? May I anſwer for you? Upon the ſtretch for GOD, and giving diligence to make your calling and election ſure. O that there may be always in you ſuch a mind! You know how many once did run well; but the devil and the world working upon their wicked hearts, have hindered them. Alas! how is their gold become dim, and their fine gold changed! Let him that thinketh he ſtands take heed leſt he fall. Be jealous of yourſelf, and hang continually on the LORD JESUS. You are now growing up, and are about to launch into a wicked world. You know how ſtrangely ſatan will tempt you to love it. Nothing can keep you, but the mighty power of GOD. Aſk, and you ſhall have it exerted in your behalf. I could enlarge, but have not time. Perhaps next week I may be in *London*. The LORD JESUS has bleſſed my being in the country. The fields are white, ready unto harveſt. My love to your ſiſter. May ſhe be a *Ruth*. For the preſent I muſt bid you farewel, after having ſubſcribed myſelf,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCLX.

To the Reverend Mr. M——.

Mitchel-Dean, Auguſt 6, 1748.

THOUGH I am now upon the road in my way to *Glouceſter*, yet I cannot help dropping you a few lines. Exceſs of buſineſs, not want of reſpect, has prevented my writing to you before. You, and yours, and all my dear *Scotch* friends, have been, ſtill are, and by the grace of GOD always will be much upon my heart. I long to hear that their ſouls proſper. Perhaps next Spring I may pay them another

viſit

visit. The remainder of this year must be spent in visiting *England* and *Wales*. Blessed be GOD, there is a prospect of a revival where I have been already, at *London*, *Bristol*, and *Wales*, from whence I am just now come. Our LORD hath been pleased to lift up the light of his countenance upon his poor people. I beg, reverend Sir, the continuance of your prayers, that I may be stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the LORD. At present, through grace, I am willing to spend and be spent for the good of precious and immortal souls. My native air seems to improve my health, and I trust ere long I shall be lively and strong as an eagle. I suppose you have heard that the word of the LORD has been glorified in *Bermudas*. In a short time, I hope the adjacent islands will know what it is to feel the sun of righteousness arising with healing under his wings.

Blest is faith that trusts his power,
Blest are saints that wait his hour;
Haste, great conqueror, bring it near;
Let the glorious close appear.

Reverend Sir, I could write more; but must away. I beg my most cordial respects may be accepted by your whole fire-side and all friends. I intend writing to dear Mr. *M*—— soon. In the mean while, I must haste to subscribe myself, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, obliged younger brother,
and willing servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXI.

To Lady H——.

London, August 10, 1748.

Honoured Madam,

THIS morning, just after I had begun to put pen to paper, a friend told me, that since I had been in the country, a letter had been sent me by a lady out of *Scotland*. I opened it, and with a pleasing surprize found it was from your Ladyship, to whom I was then writing. Blessed be GOD, that your soul, honoured Madam, is yet held in life! I hope it does and will prosper; and

and however others may grow lukewarm and lose their first love, yet you will say, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." By four years fresh experience, I find that this indeed, in every respect, is the whole of man. O how good has the blessed Redeemer been both to my soul and body! Out of how many and great deaths has he delivered me! And yet, honoured Madam, vile as I am, he is pleased still to honour me. Multitudes flock to hear the word, and our LORD is pleased to administer seed to the sower. Early in the Spring, GOD willing, do I purpose to visit dear *Scotland* once more. That the LORD of all Lords may abundantly bless your Ladyship, and all your connections in this and a better world, is the earnest prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged,
obedient humble servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXII.

To the Reverend Mr. J——.

London, August 11, 1748.

My very dear Mr. J——,

YOUR kind letter, which I received but yesterday, having been taking a little tour in the country, both grieved and pleased me. Glad was I to find, that my dear old friend had not forgotten me, and yet sorry as it were, that I had not wrote to him first. I was just going to put pen to paper, when yours was brought to my hands. I read it with joy, and now embrace the first opportunity of answering it with the greatest pleasure. These words concerning our LORD have always been weighty on my heart, "Having loved his own, he loved them unto the end." They therefore that are most like him, will be most steady in their friendship, and not very readily given to change. O my dear Sir, what has the Redeemer done for us since we used to take such sweet counsel together at *Oxford!* Blessed be his name for giving you a heart still to preach among poor sinners the unsearchable riches of CHRIST. May you go on and prosper, and, maugre all opposition, see Dagon fall every where before the ark. As for me, I am a poor worthless pilgrim, and thought long ere now to

be with him, who has loved and given himself for me.—But it seems I am not yet to die, but live. O that it may be to declare the work of the LORD! I think this is the thirteenth province I have been in within this twelvemonth, in each of which our LORD has been pleased to set his seal to my unworthy ministry. I came from *Bermudas* last, where I left many souls seeking after JESUS of *Nazareth*. In *London*, *Bristol*, *Gloucester*, and *Wales*, the glorious *Emmanuel*, since my arrival, has appeared to his people. In about a fortnight I purpose leaving town again in order to go a circuit of about five hundred miles. I need not desire you to pray for me; I need not tell you how glad I shall be whenever opportunity offers, to see you face to face. In the mean while, let us correspond by letter. May JESUS bless it to us both! I return cordial respects to Lady *M*——. I pray the LORD to bless her and her little nursery. For the present adieu. I am, my very dear Mr. *J*——,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXIII.

To Mr. S——.

Dear Sir, *London*, *August* 16, 1748.

GLAD shall I be to have the pleasure of your dining with me on *Thursday* between twelve and one. If you please, you may leave your chaise and horses at the other end of the town, and ride to my lodgings in an hackney coach. Or if you choose to come in your chaise, we have inns near at hand. I shall devote *Thursday* afternoon to you; and if you please to stay the evening and hear me preach, and then sup and take a bed at our house afterwards, I shall be much obliged to you. You need only enquire for the tabernacle new house near *Moorfields*. I hope matters will be so ordered, that you will be *solus cum solo*. I pity persons in your circumstances, and humbly hope that you will be one of *Nicodemus*'s children every way. You know, though he came by night at first, yet afterwards he was as bold as a lion. Go on, dear Sir: "To him that hath, shall be given." CHRIST will not quench the smoaking flax, nor break the bruised reed. That his love may be shed abroad in your heart, that you may be ena-

bled to confeſs him before men, and be confeſſed by him before his Father and the holy angels in heaven, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend, and
willing ſervant for JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXIV.

To Lord ———.

My Lord, *London, Auguſt* 19, 1748.

THOUGH I expect to be in *Scotland* in about three weeks, yet I cannot defer writing to your Lordſhip any longer. I hope this will find your worthy lady trampling upon the luſt of the eye, the luſt of the fleſh, and the pride of life, and ſteadily purſuing the one thing needful. I doubt not but you both have found, that the Redeemer's ſervice has been perfect freedom, and that in keeping of his commandments there is even a preſent great reward. Bleſſed be GOD, I can ſay ſo by happy and repeated experience. The bleſſed JESUS is pleaſed ſtill to own and bleſs my poor labours, and gives me encouragement to go on fighting his battles. My outward man decays; but I truſt I ſhall die in the field of battle. I want to learn what it is to be a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST. I could enlarge, but multiplicity of buſineſs obliges me to be brief. I hope my moſt dutiful reſpects will find acceptance with good Lady ——, Lady ——, and all your Lordſhip's fire ſide.—That you all may be filled with the fulneſs of GOD, is the hearty prayer of, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obliged, obedient ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXV.

To Mr. B——.

London, Auguſt 20, 1748.

My very dear Brother,

I Thank you for your kind letter. It was put into my hands juſt as I was leaving *Briſtol*, and ever ſince, I have been ſo buſy, that till now I could not redeem a few moments to anſwer

answer it. I am glad that you, and the dear brethren you mentioned, are so well and happy. They are my old hearty friends as well as you. I salute them tenderly, and long for that time when we shall all surround the throne, and throw our crowns before the Lamb who sitteth thereon for ever. There we shall be all unisons: there we shall have clear heads, and perfectly clean and purified hearts. Till then we must agree, to disagree in many things, except to love and serve him, who loved us and gave himself for us, who has redeemed us unto GOD by his blood, hath made us kings and priests unto GOD, and enables us to reign over sin, death, and hell, even whilst we are here on earth. O glorious mystery! Well may the angels desire to look into it. I could enlarge, but other affairs of our LORD's kingdom call me away. For the present, adieu. I return your cordial salutations in the heartiest manner. If our LORD should call me to *Wiltshire*, I would come and see you. At present I am bound to *Scotland*. I trust we can say, JESUS is with us here. That he may be evermore with you and all his sincere followers, is the earnest prayer of, my very dear brother,

Yours most affectionately in him that was dead,
but is alive again, and liveth for evermore,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXVI.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *August* 21, 1748.

I Received your Ladyship's letter late last night, and write this to inform your Ladyship that I am quite willing to comply with your invitation. As I am to preach, GOD willing, at *St. Bartholomew*'s on *Wednesday* evening, I will wait upon your Ladyship the next morning, and spend the whole day at *Chelsea*. Blessed be GOD, that the rich and great begin to have an hearing ear. I think it is a good sign that our LORD intends to give to some at least, an obedient heart. Surely your Ladyship and Madam *E*—— are only the first fruits. May you increase and multiply! I believe you will. How wonderfully does our Redeemer deal with souls. If they will hear the gospel only under a cieled roof, ministers shall be sent to them there. If only in a church, or a field, they shall have it

there. A word in the leſſon, when I was laſt at your Lady-ſhip's, ſtruck me. "*Paul* preached privately to thoſe that were of reputation." This muſt be the way I preſume of dealing with the nobility, who yet know not the LORD. O that I may be enabled, when called to preach to any of them, ſo to preach as to win their ſouls to the bleſſed JESUS! I know your Ladyſhip will pray that it may be ſo. As for my poor prayers, ſuch as they are, your Ladyſhip hath them every day. That the bleſſed JESUS may make your Ladyſhip happily inſtrumental in bringing many of the noble and mighty to the ſaving knowledge of his eternal Self, and water your own ſoul every moment, is the continual requeſt of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient humble ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXVII.

To Judge B———.

Honoured Sir, *London, Auguſt* 22, 1748.

I Think it is now high time for me to ſend you a line of thanks, for the favours you was pleaſed to confer on me when at the *Bermudas*. They are not, and I truſt never will be forgotten by me, whilſt I am on this ſide eternity. The ſame good hand that was with me abroad, hath ſafely brought, and ſince my arrival bleſſed me much at home. I am daily employed in that delightful work of preaching to poor ſinners the unſearchable riches of JESUS CHRIST. Once a week I read prayers and preach in one of the largeſt of the *London* churches. Multitudes flock there and in the fields, and I truſt much good is done to many. I have been lately a three hundred mile circuit, and purpoſe, GOD willing, to ſet out for *Scotland* in about eight days. At my return, I hope to hear by ſome ſhip or another that all is well at *Bermudas*. I beg my moſt dutiful reſpects may find acceptance with his Excellency. I endeavoured to be as obliging as I could to his lady and little maſter, whom I ſuppoſe the Governor will have heard from before this comes to hand. I have taken the freedom to ſend him a volume of my ſermons. I intend writing to Colonel *H*—— another opportunity. I have ſent

to

to Colonel *G*—— and ſome others already. Multiplicity of buſineſs prevents my writing to more at preſent. Be pleaſed however to preſent my moſt cordial reſpects to him and his family, to your whole fire ſide, and all enquiring friends. I hope you will accept the ſame yourſelf, from, honoured Sir,

Your moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXVIII.

To Captain J—— D——.

Very dear Sir, *London, Auguſt* 22, 1748.

I Have already written to you and other friends ſince my arrival at *London*. With this, I ſend a box of books to be diſpoſed of among my dear *Bermudas* acquaintance. To ſome I have affixed their names, and leſt I ſhould have forgotten any (as undoubtedly I have, being ſo much hurried) I have ſent half a dozen of my volumes of twenty three ſermons, to be diſpoſed of with the ſmall tracts, as you ſhall think proper. I begin now to expect the *Diana*, or ſome other ſhip, to bring me an account of the welfare of you and my other beloved friends. A ſenſe of your manifold kindneſſes lies yet upon my heart, and I always endeavour to remember them before Him, who has promiſed that a cup of cold water given in the name of a diſciple, ſhall in no wiſe loſe its reward. Had I time equal to my will, I would write many letters, but a variety of buſineſs prevents. Be pleaſed therefore to beg my friends to accept general thanks and cordial ſalutations. In a few days I purpoſe ſetting out for *Scotland*, and hope to return to *America* next year. But future things belong to GOD. A wide ſcene opens here, and I would willingly be diſpoſed of as ſeemeth beſt to my heavenly Father. To his tender and never-failing mercy, do I earneſtly commend you and dear Mrs. *D*——, your little ones, all your relations, and the whole circle of my friends. That you may be bleſſed with all the bleſſings of the everlaſting covenant, is the hearty deſire and continual prayer of, very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged
friend and humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXIX.

To Mr. ——.

Very dear Sir, *London, Auguſt* 22, 1748.

IF any thing I have ſaid or written has been made any way ſerviceable to your better part, I thank the LORD of all Lords, whoſe mercy endureth for ever. I truſt the language of my heart towards JESUS CHRIST, is this:

If thou excuſe, then work thy will,
By ſo unfit an inſtrument;
It will at once thy goodneſs ſhew,
And prove thy power omnipotent.

I thank you, dear Sir, for your concern about my health. If it ſhould pleaſe GOD to bring me back from *Scotland* to winter in town, I have thoughts of ſubmitting to ſome regimen or another. At preſent I think it impracticable. On *Tueſday*, GOD willing, I purpoſe to ſet out, and to go by the way of *York*. I ſuppoſe it will be about a two months circuit. My journals, and laſt five ſermons, I ſhall ſend to Mr. *D*——, with the journal that I have corrected. Alas, dear Sir, ſo many things want altering, that what you propoſe for *Andrew* to do, would be for him a too laborious taſk. I heartily wiſh that you and doctor *D*—— and Mr. *H*—— would be pleaſed to reviſe them. I intend publiſhing a new edition ſoon. Mr. *H*—— is of a different opinion from Dr. *D*—— concerning the ſeventh of the *Romans*. *Adhuc ſub judice lis eſt.* I always do as you deſire in reſpect to Mr. *W*——'s ſermons. My prayer for him, for myſelf, and friends, is this; "LORD, give us clear heads and clean hearts." I would recommend biſhop Beveridge's ſermons more, but they are too voluminous for the common people, and I have not read them all. I expect you will do this yourſelf, dear Sir, by and by, from the pulpit, and what is more, recommend his and your maſter to the choice of poor ſinners. You have now by your excellent letter publickly confeſſed him. The eyes of all will be now upon you, to ſee whether the truths you have delivered to others, are tranſcribed into your own heart and copied in your life. Now indeed may you cry,

O for

O for a ſtrong, a laſting faith!
To credit what the Almighty ſaith!

Now the language of your ſoul ſhould be, "how holy ought I to be in all manner of converſation and godlineſs." Now, dear Sir, let me entreat you to keep from trimming, or ſo much as attempting to reconcile two irreconcilable differences, GOD and the world, CHRIST and *Belial*. You know me too well to ſuppoſe I want you to turn cynic. No, live a ſocial life. But then, dear Sir, beg of the LORD JESUS to free you from the love of the world; thence, thence ariſes that fear of man which now ſo ſhackles and diſturbs your ſoul. Dare, dear Sir, to be ſingularly good. If CHRIST be your Saviour, make him a preſent of your pretty character. Honour him, and he will honour you. He indulges you much, and gently leads you on. Let the ſame love conſtrain you, dear Sir, to preſs forwards, and never reſt till you can give up children, name, life, and all into his hands who gave his precious blood for you. I could enlarge, but am called away. I make no apology for this; you ſay you are my friend.—Accept this, dear Sir, as a token of my believing you ſincere in that profeſſion, from

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXX.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *London, Auguſt* 22, 1748.

EVER ſince the reading your Ladyſhip's condeſcending letter, my ſoul (as indeed through grace it was in a degree before) has been overpowered with his preſence, who is All in All. When your Ladyſhip ſtiled me "your friend," I was amazed at your condeſcenſion. But when I thought that JESUS was my friend, it quite overcame me, and made me to lie proſtrate before him, crying, Why me, why me? I juſt now roſe from the ground, after praying the LORD of all Lords to water your ſoul, honoured madam, every moment. As there ſeems to be a door opening for the nobility to hear the goſpel, I will defer my journey till *Thurſday*, and, GOD willing, preach at your Ladyſhip's on *Tueſday*. In the mean

while I will wait upon or send to the Count the *Danish* ambassador's brother, who favours me with his company on *Monday* to dine. On *Monday* morning from nine to near eleven I will be at your Ladyship's, and wait to know your order concerning *Tuesday*. O that GOD may be with and make me humble! I am ashamed to think your Ladyship will admit me under your roof, much more am I amazed that the LORD JESUS will make use of such a creature as I am. Under a sense of this, I write to your Ladyship now. It is late, and my poor body calls to rest. But as I am to preach four times to-morrow, I thought it my duty to send these few lines to your Ladyship to night. Quite astonished at your Ladyship's condescension, and the unmerited superabounding grace and goodness of Him who has loved me and given himself for me, I subscribe myself, honoured madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged, obedient,
humble and willing servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXXI.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *London, Sept.* 1, 1748.

ALTHOUGH it is time for me to be setting out, yet I dare not leave town without dropping a few lines, gratefully to acknowledge the many favours I have received from your Ladyship, especially the honour you have done me in making me one of your Ladyship's chaplains. A sense of it humbles me, and makes me to pray more intensely for more grace, to walk more worthy of that GOD, who has called me to his kingdom and glory. As your Ladyship hath been pleased to confer on me the honour before mentioned, I shall think it my duty to send you weekly accounts of what the LORD JESUS is pleased to do for and by me. Glory be to his great Name, the prospect is promising. My Lord *Bath* received me yesterday morning very cordially, and would give me five guineas for the orphans, though I refused taking any thing for the books. I send your Ladyship (by the hands of faithful and honest *Betty W*——) a little box of my sermons, and the last account of GOD's dealing with me, and of the money

expended for the Orphan-houſe, with my oath before the magiſtrates of *Savannah*. The little book in marble paper is for Madam *P*——: I have folded down where I would have her begin to read. What a lovely chriſtian will ſhe make, when grace hath once refined her heart? I hope GOD intends to honour your Ladyſhip in making you inſtrumental of doing good to the nobility. His providence, his peculiar providence hath placed your Ladyſhip at *Chelſea*. I am perſuaded your Ladyſhip will not quit that poſt, till he that hath placed you there, plainly gives you a diſmiſſion. I have good news to-day from *Briſtol*. Mr. *C*—— intends to be fettered no longer with the fear of man. O that there may be always in him ſuch a mind! Mr. *L*——, he informs me too, is coming from under the cloud. He begs his dutiful reſpects may be preſented to your Ladyſhip, and is much obliged to your Ladyſhip for being ſo much concerned for him. I hope he will fix by and by: But whither am I running? Pardon me, honoured madam, I fear I am too bold and too long. Upon the road, I propoſe writing your Ladyſhip my thoughts of what ſcheme ſeems to be moſt practicable, in order to carry on the work of GOD, both here and in *America*. I dare add no more but my hearty prayers for the temporal and eternal welfare of your Ladyſhip, and whole houſhold, and ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXII.

To the Rev. Mr. J—— W——.

Rev. and dear Sir, *London, Sept.* 1, 1748.

MY not meeting you at *London* has been a diſappointment to me. But our LORD orders all things well. His time is and will be beſt. I ſuppoſe you will hear of my preaching to ſome of the nobility, and I truſt the hour is coming when ſome of the *Mighty* and *Noble* ſhall be called. What have you thought about an union? I am afraid an external one is impracticable. I find by your ſermons, that we differ in principles more than I thought, and I believe we are upon two different plans. My attachment to *America* will not permit

mit me to abide very long in *England*; consequently, I should but weave a *Penelope*'s webb, if I formed societies; and if I should form them, I have not proper assistants to take care of them. I intend therefore to go about preaching the gospel to every creature. You, I suppose, are for settling societies every where; but more of this when we meet. I can now only say a few general things. I hope you don't forget to pray for me. You are always remembered by, Reverend and dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXIII.

To Mr. J—— W——.

My very dear Brother, *London, Sept.* 1, 1748.

YOUR kind letter I received with great satisfaction. I chearfully sit down to answer it before I set out for *Scotland*. I have been a mile or two upon the road, but turned back because my chaise was not registered. My hands have been full of work, and I have been among great company. A privy counsellor of the king of *Denmark*, and others, with one of the Prince of *Wales*'s favourites, dined and drank tea with me on *Monday*. On *Tuesday* I preached twice at Lady *Huntingdon*'s to several of the nobility. In the morning the Earl of *Chesterfield* was present. In the evening Lord *B*——. All behaved quite well, and were in some degree affected. Lord *C*—— thanked me, and said, "Sir, I will not tell you what I shall tell others, how I approve of you," or words to this purpose. He conversed with me freely afterwards. Lord *B*—— was much moved, and desired I would come and see him the next morning. I did; and his Lordship behaved with great candour and frankness. All accepted of my sermons, and seemed surprized but pleased. Thus, my dear brother, the world turns round. "In all time of my wealth, good LORD deliver me!" Glad am I, for his own sake, that dear Mr. *C*—— begins to resolve to play the man. Alas! a trimming conduct is uncomfortable to one's self, displeasing to CHRIST, and ridiculous in the sight of the world. CHRIST is worth all, or he is worth nothing. May the LORD enable me to be simple, and honest, and open in all my dealings, and

to

to trust him with the consequences. I have ever yet found, that honesty is the best policy in the end. O that dear Mr. *L*—— may at length show himself a man too! My dear, very dear brother, may you lose no more time, but join in confessing a crucified Saviour. Glad am I to find that Mr. *C*——'s conversation is blest to you. I wish you had always a christian *fidus achates* at your side. Pardon me, dear brother, this freedom. My love is so great to you, and I have put up so many prayers for you, that I cannot rest till you improve those excellent parts GOD has given you, for the glory of his church and the good of his people. I am glad you will send something to our mother. I need not tell you, that the wisest of men has bid us "not to despise one's mother, when she is old." I thank you for the pictures; I have made free with some of them already. I shall not be sorry, if you do not go to *Gloucester*. Alas, so much money spent at music-meetings will make but a poor article at the day of judgment. But where does my affection carry me? My dear brother, good night. GOD willing, you shall hear from me soon again; if you do not answer me immediately, I will impute it to any thing rather than want of love; that, I am sure, is strong towards me, however unworthy of it. GOD has blessed me much in *London*. Congregations are very large. On *Sunday* I was enabled to preach four times: but this body—Well! thanks be to GOD, it is soon to be put off. Once more good night. My love to all friends. I am

Yours most affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXIV.

To Mr. S——.

Oulney, (*Northamptonshire*) *Sept.* 4, 1748.

Very dear Sir,

IT was a pleasing surprize to me last week, to receive a letter dated in *July* from my dear, very dear friend Mr. *S*—— of *New-England*. I left town yesterday, but having an immediate opportunity of sending by way of *Philadelphia*, I now sit down to write your answer. Poor *New-England!* I pity and pray for thee from my inmost soul. May GOD arise, and

ſcatter thy enemies! may thoſe that hate thee be made to flee before thee! I am afraid the ſcene will be yet darker. But you know it is always darkeſt before day-break. It has been ſo in *England*. Matters, as to religion, were come to almoſt an extremity. The enemy had indeed broken in upon us like a flood. The ſpirit of the LORD is now lifting up a ſtandard. The proſpect of the ſucceſs of the goſpel, I think, was never more promiſing. In the church, tabernacle, and fields, congregations have been great, and perhaps as great power as ever hath accompanied the word. A door is alſo opening for the mighty and noble. I have preached four times to ſeveral of the nobility at good Lady *H*——'s. All behaved exceeding well, and I ſuppoſe in the winter opportunities of preaching to them will be frequent. May the LORD prepare me for whatever he has prepared for me! As for returning to *America*, if I live, I believe there's no doubt of it. I intend keeping myſelf free from ſocieties, and therefore I hope to ſee you again next year. But future things belong to GOD. I thank you and dear Mr. *R*——— for your kind invitation. May the LORD direct to what is beſt! I hope you will continue to write. Pray read, ſeal and ſend the incloſed. You will communicate ſo much of this letter as may be proper. O dear Sir, pray for me, that the glorious *Emmanuel* may give me humility, and lead me on from conquering to conquer. You muſt remember me to dear Mrs. *S*—— and all in the kindeſt manner, and entreat them to continue their prayers in behalf of, very dear Sir,

Yours as uſual,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXXV.

To Mr. R——.

Very dear Sir, *Oulney, Sept.* 4, 1748.

THOUGH I am on my journey to *Scotland*, yet I muſt ſtop a little by the way to anſwer your kind letter dated in *July* laſt. It brought ſtrange things to my ears, and it made me ſmile. You know, dear Sir, what has often paſſed between you and me, upon that point, loving honour. Some perſons being forced as it were to accept of government places, are like

like other persons saying *nolo episcopare*, when, it may be, they have been making interest for a bishoprick many years. You know how to make the application. However, GOD may over-rule this for good, and if you could get the government of ———(though in asking for it, you know not what you ask) it might be of service to *New-England* many ways. But, dear Sir, what can I do in it? I have no interest at court, and supposing I had, you have directed me to no means, neither hath any person been with me concerning it. Be pleased therefore to inform me of particulars. Let Mr. *S*—— instruct me what steps are to be taken, and if I can be of any service, you may command me. I thank you, dear Sir, for your kind invitation, and if you are to be exalted, I pray the LORD of all Lords to fit and qualify you for, and support you under it. You will not forget to give my most cordial salutations to all my dear *New-England* friends. I pray for them, you, and yours, and am, very dear Sir, with repeated thanks for all favours,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXVI.

To the Rev. Mr. L——.

Rev. and dear Sir, *Doncaster, Sept.* 7, 1748.

OUR last short interview at *Stone-house* pleased me. I hope it foreboded something good. I told you the truth when I said, "I had not forgotten you." No, neither have I been suffered to think hardly of you for your shyness to unworthy me; only I have thought you were loosing time, and for fear of displeasing a few mortal men, had acted a part displeasing to the invisible, immortal, and only wise GOD. Good Sir *John Philips* used to call you *sincere*. I believe that is your right name. I cannot help thinking but you will prove it to be so ere long. That love which JESUS shed abroad in your heart years ago, must constrain you to confess him before man. The light which the LORD hath imparted to you, cannot, I am persuaded, be much longer hid under a bushel. The shackles with which you have been fettered, must be shaken off, or I am much mistaken in the dear man

to

to whom I am writing.—Pardon me, my dear old friend. My heart at preſent overflows with love towards you. Though weary and on a journey, I cannot help writing to you. Fear not temporal ſupport. Though I went without ſcrip or ſhoe, I have lacked nothing; or if I had nothing, in JESUS I have poſſeſſed all things. I do not envy thoſe who chooſe to ſleep in a whole ſkin. Let me have ſcars, ſo that they are ſcars of honour, ſcars for JESUS CHRIST. I know who will approve of them, when he comes to judgment. O that day! that awful day! GOD enable us ſo to act, that we may receive an *Euge bone!* Out of the fulneſs of my heart I write thus. I am now on my way to *Scotland*. The LORD JESUS hath bleſſed me in *London*. As ſoon as poſſible I intend calling upon you. If you have a mind to renew our old delightful chriſtian correſpondence, I am quite willing. I wiſh you and yours the beſt of bleſſings, and am, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXVII.

To Mr. S——.

Morpeth, (Northumberland,) Sept. 10, 1748.

Dear Mr. S——,

TILL now I have not had time to anſwer your kind letter, and now I am too weary to ſend you a long one. I thank you for your good wiſhes and prayers. May they enter into the ears of the LORD of Sabaoth! Hitherto, GOD has been pleaſed to bleſs me ſince my arrival. Let the LORD's people continue to hold up their hands, and by his divine aſſiſtance I will go on fighting till I drop. I am now on my way to *Scotland*. I know you wiſh me good luck in the name of the LORD. When providence opens a door, I ſhall be glad to embrace.—In the mean while, pray remember me to all in the kindeſt manner. As for your call to preach, I can ſay nothing, being a ſtranger to you. Only I would obſerve to you what the apoſtle ſays, "Not a novice, &c."—You know what follows. If you chuſe proper ſeaſons, and keep within the bounds of humility and chriſtian prudence, I pray the LORD to be with and bleſs you. I can now add no more, but ſubſcribe myſelf

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCLXXVIII.

To Mr. T———.

Edinburgh, Sept. 15, 1748.

Dear Mr. T———,

ERE this can reach *London*, you will find that I have forgot not my promiſe. No, I love thee too well to do ſo. Thanks be to GOD, that you begin to awake out of your dream. It has been a dream, though a golden pleaſing one. If all was right, ſuch darkneſs would never come and abide upon your ſoul. Come, play the man, and, if called to it, leave a worm for GOD. You are not the firſt that have been called to part with what was as dear as their own ſouls, or that have ſeen their beloved object in the poſſeſſion of another. Better ſee that, than enjoy the object with guilt upon the mind. How did *Jacob* ſmart, all his life-time afterwards, for getting the bleſſing by a lie? The way of duty is the way of ſafety. I write this on ſuppoſition that your father will be againſt your proceeding. You will let me know what he ſays: In the mean while, as our LORD enables, I will pray for you. May the LORD JESUS give us a right judgment in all things! But enough of this. You ſee the biſhop's charge has turned out as I ſuppoſed. Who could imagine otherwiſe? LORD, humble thy people for giving ſuch wrong touches to the ark! LORD, keep me from doing ſo any more! O for zeal according to knowledge! O for grace and wiſdom to act aright! Yeſterday GOD brought me ſafe here, and I have been received very kindly. This afternoon I am to preach. The effects of it you may know hereafter. For the preſent, adieu. I recommend you to Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to raiſe you when fallen; and ſubſcribe myſelf,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCLXXIX.

To the Reverend Mr. B——.

Edinburgh, Sept. 16, 1748.

Reverend and dear Sir,

ON *Thurſday* noon, through the providence of a good and gracious GOD, I came hither, where I have met with an hearty welcome. Laſt night I preached to a *Moorfields* congregation for numbers, and the LORD, I believe, was pleaſed to give it his bleſſing. I have had the pleaſure of hearing, that a ſerjeant of a regiment, awakened when I was here laſt, held on, and held out, and died rejoicing; and likewiſe of ſeveral others, who are gone before us to inherit the promiſes. May the LORD awaken freſh ſouls to ſupply their places. I truſt he will. I was alſo much delighted laſt night, to hear there were ſo many chriſtian ſoldiers among the king's forces that came from *Flanders*. A young chriſtian lady, under whoſe roof they were, told me, that ſome or other of them were continually praying to, and wreſtling with GOD. If any of them return to *England*, I doubt not but Col. *G——y* will find them out. I intend writing to him ſoon, and hope to ſend our good lady ſome glad tidings next week. In the mean while, pray preſent my moſt dutiful reſpects to her Ladyſhip. I hope all is well in *London*. The biſhop's death, I ſuppoſe, will prevent any further ſtir about *Bartholomew*. I ſhall be glad to hear how you go on. Pray, dear Sir, how are your circumſtances? You will not be offended if I inform you, that more than one have informed me of your being in debt to ſeveral. I thought it my duty to apprize you of it, becauſe I know what a burden it is to be in debt; not indeed for myſelf, but for others. I make no apology for this; you know it muſt proceed from love. I wiſh you the very beſt of bleſſings, and am, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCLXXX.

To Mr. S—— W——.

Edinburgh, Sept. 19, 1748.

My very dear Mr. W——,

SHALL I promiſe, and not perform? GOD forbid! Glad am I, yea very glad to open a freſh correſpondence with a dear old friend, with whom I have often taken ſuch ſweet counſel. O my dear man, how patient, how long-ſuffering has the bleſſed JESUS been towards us! Ought not his love to conſtrain us to obedience? Ought we not to confeſs him, who endured ſuch contradiction of ſinners againſt himſelf for us? For my part, when I think that the glorious *Emmanuel* endured the pain, and deſpiſed the ſhame of dying upon a curſed tree for me, I cannot help ſaying,

For this let men revile my name,
No croſs I'd ſhun, I'd fear no ſhame;
All hail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

Glory be to GOD, I have hitherto found that the croſs of JESUS has been lined with love. This has made it eaſy; this even now makes it exceeding light. I fear proſperity more than affliction; and though there is but little danger perhaps of my being exalted in this world, yet the language of my ſoul is, "In all time of my wealth, good LORD deliver me." May the LORD keep you, my dear friend, by his mighty power through faith! He has entruſted you with many talents; may you occupy them till he come! I hope he will bleſs your converſation to thoſe who are yet but weak in the faith, and who cannot, through love of the world, or fear of man, as yet bear much contempt. My ſervice to Meſſrs. *B*—— and *M*——, when you ſee them. My prayer for you all is, that you may be good ſoldiers of JESUS CHRIST. I am fighting for him here. Vaſt multitudes come to hear; but what good is done, cannot yet be determined. Many of my dear friends are gone to glory. I purpoſe being in town about the time appointed. I know you will pray for me. Whether abſent or preſent,

assure yourself you are never forgotten by, my very dear friend,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXI.

To the Countess of H———.

Honoured Madam, *Edinburgh, Sept.* 20, 1748.

I Suppose, ere this can reach you, your Ladyship will have heard of my being arrived at *Edinburgh*, and of another particular or two mentioned in Mr. *B*——'s letter. This brings your Lapyship an account of very great multitudes flocking to hear the word; but with what success it is attended, I cannot yet tell. Upon my first coming, I was somewhat discouraged at hearing of the death of many of my valuable and leading friends, and of others losing their first love. Besides, the weather was boisterous, some ministers shy, and GOD was pleased to visit me with a great hoarseness. But the prospect is now more pleasant; and I trust, ere I leave *Scotland*, your Ladyship will have some good news from a far country. Inclosed your Ladyship has an extract of a letter sent from *London* to a pious gentlewoman here: I wish part of the contents may not prove, like the bishop of *E*——'s charge,—mere imaginary. May GOD hasten the time, when more of the mighty and noble shall be called, and made to stoop to the Redeemer's sceptre! It is now growing late. That your Ladyship and family may be filled with all the fulness of GOD, is the earnest prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obedient, willing servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXII.

To Mr. H———.

Edinburgh, Sept. 21, 1748.

AND could my very dear Mr. *H*—— think, that when he was out of sight he was out of mind? No, my dear friend, I believe it will never be so with you and me. By this

this time, I hope Mr. *D*——'s letter from *Bermudas*, or the letters sent you from thence by way of *Philadelphia*, will inform you, that I wrote several parting letters to you and many other friends, and sent you bills of exchange to the amount of *eighty pounds* sterling; but, with my letter, books, and several other things, I find they are taken. Of this Mr. *D*—— writes me lately. As there is now peace, and a commerce opened with *Spain*, I hope the new settlers will be disturbed no more. Courage, my dear man, courage. Surely we shall yet live to see the salvation of GOD in *Georgia*. I am glad Mr. *Fairweather* hath been at *Bethesda*. Whatever has happened, do your best for me in respect to my family. Next year you may see me again. But more of this hereafter. The LORD is exceeding good to me. Great things are doing in *England*; and the LORD is blessing me more and more in *Scotland*. This morning, I hear a gentlewoman has left me an hundred pounds. If so, fifty shall be paid for you on the Orphan-house account, to Mr. *N*———, and as much more as I can spare, as soon as possible.—I have paid Mr. *J*—— thirty pounds sterling. But what does my wife tell me in her letter received this day, about your losing some favourite creature? Is it your wife, or your little daughter? Well, my dear friend, you and I must be made perfect through sufferings; you and I must learn to walk by faith. May the Father of Mercies comfort your heart, and abundantly supply the want of every creature, by communications from his own eternal Self. O pray write to me. Let me bear part of your sorrows, and thereby shew myself your friend. If my wife is embarked ere this arrives, I beg you would open all parcels that are sent to your care, and act as usual for my family. My tender love to all. You will not cease praying, dear Mr. *H*———, for

Ever yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXIII.

To Mr. S———.

Edinburgh, Sept. 23, 1748.

My dear Brother S———,

HOW good is GOD! Well may you ſay, that he never fails thoſe that put their truſt in him. How does he make my extremity his opportunity to help and relieve me. If the news about the legacy be true, I hope it will increaſe my faith, and make me more willing to be upon the ſtretch for Him, who was ſtretched upon the accurſed tree for me. I thank you for ſending my letters. My wife propoſes to embark for *England* in *October*. The climate will not agree with her. The phyſicians adviſe her to come over, and ſhe entreats all friends to pray for her ſafe paſſage to *England*. Affairs here have now a comfortable aſpect. I think more people than ever come to hear, and their hearts begin to be warm. Continue to write. My love to all. The not ſending the late publiſhed account of the Orphan-houſe, has been of diſſervice to me. When will the children of light be as wiſe in their generation as the children of the world? I can now no more, but am, my dear Sir,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXIV.

To Colonel G——ly.

Very dear Sir, *Edinburgh, Sept.* 23, 1748.

EVER ſince I have been in *Edinburgh*, I have been attempting to write to you, but could not effect it till now. Though I am abſent from, yet I am preſent with you. I hope this will find you fighting the good fight of faith, and in every reſpect behaving like a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST. The news of your converſion hath reached the ears of many of the great ones in *Scotland*. May the LORD JESUS keep you ſtedfaſt, unmoveable, always abounding in his work. The way you know. A conſtant looking up to the author and finiſher of our faith, and watching unto prayer with all perſe-

perſeverance, will keep the ſoul ſteady amidſt all the temptations of a malicious devil, and enſnaring world. O for grace and zeal to endure unto the end! *Finis coronat opus.* I could ſay much, but company waits for me. Vaſt multitudes come to hear, and I truſt much good is done. Good Lady *H*——— has an extract of a letter from a ſoldier, which will pleaſe you. Here are two devout ſoldiers in *Edinburgh.* May the LORD JESUS add more to his church of ſuch converts as may be ſaved! You will not forget to pray for me. That you may increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD, is the earneſt prayer of, very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate friend, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXV.

To Mr. H——.

Glaſgow, Sept. 28, 1748.

My very dear Mr. H——.

YOU are every day upon my heart. I muſt not, I cannot refrain writing to you any longer. How do you? Old love revives in my heart towards you, becauſe, I truſt, love to the bleſſed JESUS begins to revive in your heart. May the glorious *Emmanuel* fan the divine ſpark, till it break out into a holy blaze! Do not loſe one moment more, my dear Sir: let this be the language of your ſoul continually,

Be gone, vain world, my heart reſign,
For I will be no longer thine;
A nobler a diviner gueſt
Now takes poſſeſſion of my breaſt.

It pleaſes me to think, how loud you and I ſhall ſing of infinite, free, and unchangeable love in heaven; for becauſe GOD changeth not, therefore you and I have not been conſumed. O pleaſant, tranſporting thought! What a ſaviour is JESUS of *Nazareth!* How precious was his blood! How profuſely, as it were, was it ſhed for ſinners! That you and yours may every moment feel its pardoning, renovating, cleanſing, and purifying power, is the earneſt prayer of, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXVI.

To Mr. S———.

My very Dear Sir, *Glaſgow, Sept.* 28, 1748.

I Have been in pain becauſe your kind letter has lain by me ſo long unanſwered.—Nothing but a variety of other neceſſary buſineſs has been the cauſe. My hands are full, and I truſt the pleaſure of the LORD will proſper in them. Very great multitudes have flocked to hear; and in *Glaſgow* the proſpect of doing good is rather more promiſing than in *Edinburgh*. In a fortnight I purpoſe, GOD willing, to leave *Scotland*, and to preach at *Oundle* in my way to *London*. Glad ſhall I be to ſee two ſuch friends as you and Mr. *H*——, though incog. I will endeavour to ſend you timely notice. I would have neither of you expoſe yourſelves to needleſs contempt upon my account. I think I can ſay, that I am willing to be forgotten even by my friends, if JESUS CHRIST may thereby be exalted. But then, I would not have my friends act an inconſiſtent part towards that friend of all, that friend of ſinners, the glorious *Emmanuel*. You know, my dear Sir, what an inſpired apoſtle hath aſſerted: "A double-minded man is unſtable in all his ways." Whilſt you are afraid of men, you will expoſe yourſelf to a thouſand inconveniences. Your polite company, (unleſs you converſe with them more as their phyſician, than as their companion) will prevail on you to ſuch compliances, as will make you ſmart when you retire into your cloſet, and reflect on the part you have acted. Before I ſhook off the world, often have I come out of company, ſhorn of all my ſtrength, like poor *Sampſon* when he had loſt his locks! But this is a tender point. Go on, dear Sir, and prove the ſtrength of JESUS to be yours. Continue inſtant in prayer, and you ſhall ſee and feel infinitely greater things than you have ſeen or felt yet. I am of your opinion, that there is ſeed ſown in *England*, which will in time grow up into a great tree. GOD's giving ſome of the mighty and noble a hearing ear, forebodes future good. I do not deſpair, if I live, of ſeeing you a proclaimer of the unſearchable riches of JESUS CHRIST. GOD be praiſed, that Mr. *H*—— is ſo bold an advocate for his bleſſed LORD. I ſend him my moſt

affectionate

affectionate respects, and entreat him to remember me in his prayers. I wrote to Mr. *H*—— lately. I herewith send you an extract of a letter I wrote on ship-board to my dear invaluable friend Mr. *S*——, of *South-Carolina*. If it was judged proper, I would put it in the preface of a new edition of my Journals. I would not have any of my mistakes remain uncensured, uncorrected. I thank you for your hint about my way of preaching. I shall take care to observe it. And now, dear Sir, for the present, adieu. I am afraid I have tired you. I shall be fond of seeing you at *London*. Rejoicing in the prospect of seeing you in the kingdom of heaven, I subscribe myself, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER. [DCLXXXVI.]

To Mr. K——.

Dear Sir, *Glasgow, Sept.* 28, 1748.

WHEN I was the other day at *Edinburgh*, your aged father communicated a letter to me, which gave an account of your being translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of GOD's dear Son. As the news rejoiced the heart of angels in heaven, no wonder that it gives satisfaction to those who desire to follow the blessed JESUS here on earth. Hoping that I am one of those, and being willing to promote his glorious gospel in every part of the world, I write you this letter at a venture, to wish you joy of your happy change, and to exhort you with full purpose of heart to cleave unto the LORD. The more you know of Wisdom's ways, the more you will find them to be ways of pleasantness. The more you know of the blessed JESUS, the more you will find that his yoke is easy, and his burden exceeding light. Go on then, dear Sir: be strong in the grace that is in CHRIST JESUS, and learn to endure hardness like a good soldier. Who knows what the LORD may do by you in the dark parts where you are? Much good has been done among the soldiers in *Flanders*. What GOD has done for your soul, I trust is only an earnest of what he intends to do for others in St. *Helena*. I salute your companion very heartily.

I wish you both much prosperity in the LORD. You shall have the prayers of as many as I can engage for you. Remember our LORD's promise. Where there are only two or three gathered together in his name, there is he in the midst of them. Though you have not public ordinances, yet if the GOD of ordinances be with you, there will be no room for complaint. If I can any way be instrumental of promoting the blessed work begun among you, you may readily command, dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend and
willing servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXVII.

To Mrs. E——.

Dear Madam, *Glasgow, Sept.* 28, 1748.

ALTHOUGH I fear it may be taking too much freedom, yet as I humbly hope that the love of GOD is shed abroad in your heart, I trust you will not be offended at my sending you these few lines. They are lines of joy; for who can help rejoicing that hears what the blessed JESUS hath done for your soul? O Madam, how much are you indebted to that grace which hath made such difference between you and others. To see any one converted is a miracle. But to see a rich person, one of the mighty, one of the noble converted, is yet a greater. May the LORD JESUS add more of your rank to his church, such as shall be saved! Never fear, Madam; all things are possible to the glorious *Emmanuel.* Let him but speak the word, and great shall be the numbers of new creatures. I hope this will find you in good health, and upon the full stretch for him who was stretched and bled upon the cross for you. Great multitudes in *Scotland* flock to hear. Some of my spiritual children, I hear, are gone to heaven, and others come to me, telling what GOD did for their souls when I was here last. I desire to cast my crown before the Lamb; I desire always to be crying out, "Why me, LORD, why me? In about a fortnight I purpose setting out for *London.* I lead a moving life. In heaven I shall have rest enough. Blessed be GOD for giving us to enter into a little of that rest

even

even here! That you may daily increaſe in faith, and conſequently enjoy more and more of this reſt, is the hearty prayer of, dear Madam,

Your moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXVIII.

To ſome devout Soldiers.

My dear Brethren, *Glaſgow, Sept.* 29, 1748.

IT gave me no ſmall ſatisfaction, when I was lately at *Edinburgh*, to hear that ſeveral of you were enabled to behave like good ſoldiers of JESUS CHRIST. I rejoice greatly that you are made partakers of his grace, and I earneſtly intreat the LORD of all Lords that you may grow and increaſe in it day by day. This is the chriſtian's duty. He muſt forget the things that are behind; he muſt preſs forward towards the things which are before; he muſt not ſtop, till he arrives at the mark of the prize of his high calling. I truſt, my dear brethren, you are all thus minded; and that whatever befals you, you will, through divine aſſiſtance, hold on and hold out to the end. If I can be any way ſerviceable to you, be not backward to ſend to me. I hear of others of your profeſſion, that have lately enliſted under the banner of the ever-bleſſed Redeemer. Happy they! happy you! You have a good captain, a good cauſe, good armour, and an exceeding great reward. That you may at all times quit yourſelves like men, and be ſtrong; that you may fight the good fight of faith, and at length lay hold on life, eternal is the hearty prayer of, my dear Brethren,

Your affectionate friend, and willing
ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCLXXXIX.

To the Counteſs of H———.

Honoured Madam, *Sept.* 29, 1748.

AM I not too troubleſome in writing to your Ladyſhip ſo frequently? I fear I am; and yet I am afraid to break

your Ladyship's command, "Write weekly." Blessed be GOD, I can yet send your Ladyship word that the glorious *Emmanuel* is with me, and countenances my poor administrations. I have met with some unexpected rubs, but not one more than was absolutely necessary to humble my proud heart. "O my blessed Redeemer, when shall I learn of thee to be meek and lowly! Thou alone, O Lamb of GOD, canst teach me. Sanctify all thy dispensations to this end, and give me always to lie at thy feet." There, honoured Madam, I am safe: There I believe this letter will find your Ladyship.—May you every moment hear the Redeemer's voice, and be built up continually in your most holy faith. In about a fortnight I purpose leaving *Scotland*. Several things concur to make me believe that it was right for me to come here. Particulars your Ladyship may expect at my return to town. In the mean while, I recommend your Ladyship, and your dear offspring, with your whole household, to the care of the Father of mercies and the GOD of all consolation, and am, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCXC.

To Dr. H———.

My dear Doctor, *Glasgow, Oct.* 1, 1748.

YESTERDAY with great satisfaction I received your kind letter. Being in *Scotland*, I cannot as yet have the pleasure of seeing Captain *T*——; but, GOD willing, I shall enquire him out at my return to *London*. The GOD of the seas and the GOD of the dry land has brought me safe to my native country; since which I have written to you and many others, and left two boxes of books for my dear *Bermudas* friends, to be sent the first opportunity. Although GOD is pleased to smile upon my poor administrations, and very great multitudes flock to hear both in *England* and *Scotland*, yet I have thoughts of seeing *Bermudas* again next year. But I dare not determine. Future things belong to GOD. Glory be to his great name for sending me to *Bermudas* at all! Glory be to his great name, that you, my dear Sir, are striving to enter at the streight gate of a sound conversion. I hope

you will never ceaſe ſtriving, till you know that your Redeemer liveth.—Neither the greatneſs nor number of your ſins can keep you from this unſpeakable privilege, if you believe on the LORD JESUS. He is the way, the truth and the life. Come to the Father in and through him, and you, even you ſhall be made more than conqueror. Ere this can reach you, I hope you will have received redemption through his blood, even the forgiveneſs of your ſins. When you experience this, O how will you rejoice with joy unſpeakable, even with joy that is full of glory! You will then have an heaven upon earth. Sin ſhall not have dominion over you. It ſhall not reign in your mortal body. My dear Mr. *H*——, whilſt I am muſing on, and writing about this bleſſed change, this preſent ſalvation, the fire kindles. I love you with a peculiar love. I travail in birth till JESUS CHRIST be formed in your dear heart. O do not backſlide. Study to improve the light and grace already received. "To him that hath ſhall be given," and he ſhall have abundance. But I forget myſelf. Buſy as I am, I muſt, you ſee, write a long letter. Pray return my hearty love to your dear wife, Mrs. *H*——'s mother in law, &c. &c. May grace, mercy and peace be multiplied upon you all! I hope you will omit no opportunity of writing to, my very dear Friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXCI.

To Mr. A——.

Dear Mr. A——, *Glaſgow, Oct.* 1, 1748.

I Am not diſappointed of my hope. I thought the LORD JESUS had begun a good work in your ſoul before I left the *Bermudas*. Your welcome letter confirmed me in this opinion. I received it with joy. Though I wrote to you not long ago, yet I muſt anſwer yours immediately. And what ſhall I ſay? May I not welcome you into the world of new creatures? May I not hope that there has been joy in heaven over you, even you, my dear Man, repenting and turning unto GOD, even a GOD in CHRIST? Surely I may. And what then does the LORD now require of you, now he hath

ſhewn

ſhewn you that good thing, the pardon of your ſins, through a once crucified but now exalted Redeemer? Will you not, out of a principle of gratitude, do juſtly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your GOD? Methinks I hear you ſay, "I will, I will through the LORD JESUS CHRIST ſtrengthening me."—And he will ſtrengthen you.—He has promiſed, that as our day is ſo ſhall our ſtrength be.—Deſpiſed you muſt be, and your name ſhall be caſt out as evil; but the glorious Redeemer will enable you to go without the camp, and cauſe you to rejoice when loaded with his ſacred reproach. "Increaſe and multiply," muſt now be your motto. Strive as much as in you lies, by your life and converſation, to win others to the bleſſed GOD. The eyes of men and angels will now be upon you. May the LORD enable you to walk circumſpectly to thoſe that are without. I hope your wife and all your relations will join in going to heaven with you. I return them my moſt hearty love, and pray that they may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. You will join in praying me over to the *Bermudas* again. I ſuppoſe Dr. *H*—— will ſhew you his letter. Remember me in the kindeſt manner to all, and accept this as a token of love unfeigned, from, dear Mr. *A*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXCII.

To Mr. D——.

My very dear Friend, *Glaſgow, Oct.* 1, 1748.

WHO is like unto GOD, who makes his creatures extremity, the opportunity to help them? Your kind letter hath confirmed the news of the death of Mrs. *B*——, and of her leaving me a legacy of a hundred pounds. Well! though ſhe is gone, yet I ſhall meet her at the great day, when the LORD JESUS ſhall remember this and all her other works of faith, and labours which have proceeded from love. I am glad ſhe has left ſuch an executor; I doubt not of your taking care of my intereſt. Your love is founded upon the rock of ages, and ſo is mine; for indeed I love you and yours in the bowels of the dear Redeemer. I know

know you will be glad to hear of my prosperity in this work. Indeed GOD makes way for his own gospel. Many come to me, telling me what the LORD did by me the last time I was in *Scotland*, and also the time before. Congregations are very large. I am pressed to stay three or four days more than I intended. Some that were prejudiced, have had their prejudices removed, and I believe will be greater friends than ever. O that I was humble and thankful! I have good news from *Bermudas*. I return you and yours love and thanks. I desire to be remembered to dear Mrs. —— and every inquiring friend. As I need them so much, I hope none will cease putting up earnest prayers in behalf of, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXCIII.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Sir, *Glasgow, Oct.* 3, 1748.

I Thank you for your kind letter. I am so ill with a hoarseness and cold, and in straining to reach large congregations, that I must send you but a short answer. The depending upon CHRIST's immediate teachings, without making use of books and proper means of instruction, you may assure yourself is a *terrible temptation*. It is the very quintessence of enthusiasm, and will lay you open to a thousand delusions. "Give thyself to reading," says *Paul* to *Timothy*. If thou cannot think of being a *Latin*, strive to be an *English* scholar. At my return I will endeavour to assist you. At present I am quite ill; but I am afraid I shall not be able to leave *Scotland* in less than a fortnight. You must remember me to all. The LORD JESUS has appeared for me. Particulars expect to hear another time.

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXCIV.

To Mr. ——.

Very dear Sir, *Glaſgow, Oct. 5, 1748.*

I Received yours this morning; though I am engaged this evening, yet I think it my duty to ſend you an immediate anſwer. You might well inform, and almoſt aſſure, *my Lord of Exeter*, that I knew nothing of the printing of his Lordſhip's pretended charge, or of the pamphlets occaſioned by it. When the former was ſent to me in manuſcript from *London* to *Briſtol*, as his Lordſhip's production, I immediately ſaid, it could not be his. When I found it printed, I ſpoke to the officious printer who did it out of his own head, and blamed him very much. When I ſaw the pamphlet, I was ſtill more offended; repeatedly in ſeveral companies I urged the injuſtice as well as imprudence thereof, and ſaid it would produce what it did, I mean a declaration from his Lordſhip, that he was no Methodiſt. I am ſorry his Lordſhip had ſuch an occaſion given him to declare his averſion to what is called Methodiſm; and though I think his Lordſhip in his declaration hath been ſomewhat ſevere concerning ſome of the Methodiſt leaders; yet I cannot blame his Lordſhip for ſaying, "that he thought ſome of them were worſe than ignorant and miſguided," ſuppoſing that his Lordſhip had ſufficient proof, that they either cauſed to be printed, or wrote again when printed, a charge which his Lordſhip had never owned nor publiſhed. If you think proper, dear Sir, you may let his Lordſhip ſee the contents of this. I will only add, that I wiſh a way could be found out, whereby his Lordſhip and other of the Right Reverend the Biſhops, might converſe with ſome of us. Many miſtakes might thereby be rectified, and perhaps his Lordſhip's ſentiments in ſome degree altered. If this cannot be effected (I ſpeak only for myſelf,) I am content to wait till we all appear before the great ſhepherd and biſhop of ſouls. In the mean while, I heartily pray, that their Lordſhips may be bleſſed with all ſpiritual bleſſings, and wiſhing you the like mercies, I ſubſcribe myſelf, very dear Sir,

Your affectionate, obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCXCV.

To Mr. H——.

My dear Mr. H——, *Cambuſlang, Oct. 9, 1748.*

HAVE you not ſuſpected, that I have forgotten you? but indeed I have not. As a teſtimony of it, though late, accept a line of love, even love unfeigned. I hope you are well, and that affairs go on at the Tabernacle as well as can be expected. I truſt the ſhout of a king is amongſt you. Bleſſed be GOD, he has cauſed his goſpel to triumph in *Scotland*. I have been humbled and exalted; humbled firſt, in order to be exalted afterwards. Thus it is.—The LORD wounds and then heals. At preſent I am in the place where the great awakening was about ſix years ago. The fruits of it yet remain. To morrow, GOD willing, I take my leave at *Glaſgow*. I believe we ſhall have a ſorrowful parting. As I expect to ſtop in *Yorkſhire*, I ſuppoſe I cannot reach *London* till the latter end of this month, if ſo ſoon. O for a warm winter! You muſt remember me to all. I cannot now deſcend to particulars. I can only pray, that you and yours may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD, and ſubſcribe myſelf,

Yours moſt affectionately in the glorious JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXCVI.

To Mr. B——.

My dear Sir, *Edinburgh, Oct. 12, 1748.*

LAST night, after wondering at your being ſilent ſo long, I received your wiſhed-for letter. The reading it brought tears from my eyes. I felt for you, and for your father, and for all parties concerned. How lovingly does the LORD deal with you? Is not the way of duty the way of ſafety? Should you not both agree to let matters lie as they are, and not go one ſtep further till you know your father's mind? You have given him your word; you muſt not go back. My affair came to as near a criſis, and yet I was called to ſacrifice my *Rachael*. It may not be ſo with you. But prepare for the

worſt.

worſt. Aſſure yourſelf, that your preſent paſſion, at leaſt as to the exceſs of it, is ſinful. If all is right, why ſuch uneaſineſs for ſuch a ſmall ſpace of time? Why ſuch a long eclipſe in the ſoul? Alas! *B*——'s has been almoſt total. I hope you are now coming out of it. Thanks be to that JESUS, who has promiſed "that we ſhall not be tempted above what we are able to bear," but will with the temptation make a way to eſcape. You ſee, my dear man, my love by my ſympathy and plainneſs. Pray remember me to your aged father in the kindeſt manner. Dear old man! he is worthy of your greateſt regard. His account of the legacy is true.—Yes, my dear friend, the LORD JESUS does reign indeed, and therefore I ſhall be delivered out of all my troubles. You will give thanks in my behalf. He has appeared for me here. Congregations have been very large, and ſeveral things have concurred to prove that providence did indeed call me to *Scotland*. I would not but have come for the world. Laſt night I came hither from *Glaſgow*, and thought to leave this place as next *Tueſday*, but perhaps it may be the *Tueſday* following. I fear I cannot write to any more this poſt. But whether I write or not, whether abſent or preſent, you muſt always remember me, as

Your aſſured friend, and willing
ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCXCVII.

To Mr. W——.

Edinburgh, Oct. 12, 1748.

Reverend and dear Sir,

THOUGH I have not written to you, yet not one day hath paſſed ſince my being this time in *Scotland*, without my thinking of you. The love and reſpect I owe you, as an aged miniſter of JESUS CHRIST, will not ſuffer me to be ſilent any longer. How do you, reverend Sir? I doubt not but you find that promiſe true, "The righteous ſhall bring forth much fruit in old age." This leaves me, though faint, yet purſuing, and reſolved, in the bleſſed JESUS, to ſpend and be ſpent in the bleſſed cauſe wherein I have embarked. Indeed,

deed, when I consider my blunders, mistakes, and imprudencies, I wonder the glorious *Emmanuel* does not lay me aside; but his grace is like himself, *infinite* and *eternal*. I hope he has given me a sight of, and humbled me for some of my mistakes; and I trust as I grow in years, if I am to live longer, I shall grow in knowledge and every christian virtue. Reverend and dear Sir, be pleased to pray for me. I do not forget you, though perhaps you may judge otherwise. O for heaven! There christian ministers shall see eye to eye.—But I must not weary you. In a few days I suppose you will hear what has happened in the *West*. Dear Mr. *M*—— perhaps may acquaint you with particulars. With this, I send you a few of my last accounts of the Orphan-house. You may dispose of them as you think proper. When you see Mr. *B*—— or *R*——, or any of the ministers that were friendly to me, be pleased to remember me to them in the most respectful manner. I hope Mrs. *W*—— and your whole household enjoy much of Him whose presence is better than life. I earnestly entreat the LORD to fill you with all his fulness, and beg leave to subscribe myself, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, though unworthy younger brother and servant in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCXCVIII.

To the Reverend Mr. E——.

Edinburgh, Oct. 12, 1748.

Reverend and dear Sir,

BY the providence of a good and gracious GOD, I came hither last night, after having preached at *Falkirk* in the morning. Mr. *A*—— behaved very kindly. Mr. *N*—— has Mr. *M*——'s letter. I am to see him at five this evening. On *Tuesday* next, GOD willing, I intend preaching for Mr. *G*——, and to leave *Scotland* the *Tuesday* following. In the mean while you may write what you please. But whither am I going? Let GOD direct. Let my name be forgotten, let me be trodden under the feet of all men, if JESUS may thereby be glorified. I wish you or Mr. *M*—— would write a line to Mr. *W*——; I would not have any good, though mistaken

man, uneasy upon my account. Well! In heaven all will be over. When I meet you there, I will thank you for all the pains you have taken with, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCXCIX.

To the Countess of H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Edinburgh, Oct.* 15, 1748.

THOUGH it is late and nature calls for rest, yet I cannot with satisfaction close my eyes unless I write once more to your Ladyship: and what shall I say? I am the chief of sinners, and the LORD JESUS magnifies his grace in being long suffering and infinitely bountiful unto me. At *Glasgow* he has magnified his strength in my weakness, and out of the eater hath brought forth meat. Next week I purpose, GOD willing, to send your Ladyship the substance of a long debate about poor unworthy me, in the synod of *Glasgow*. Since that, I find the presbytery of *Perth* (I mean the new-fashioned part of it) has made an act against employing me. Ill-nature shews itself here, but I feel the benefit of it. Congregations are large, and I am enabled to preach with greater power, and feel unspeakable great comfort in my own soul. My hoarseness is quite gone off, my bodily health much repaired, and if my enemies shew themselves, I am persuaded the blessed JESUS will bless me to his people more and more.—Some give out, that I am employed by the government to preach against the *Pretender*; and the *Seceders* are very angry with me for not preaching up the *Scotch Covenant*. Blessed be GOD, I preached up the covenant of grace, and I trust many souls are taught to profit. The inclosed, dear Madam, will shew your Ladyship a little how I have been dealt with. Particulars your Ladyship shall have when the LORD is pleased to bring me to *London*. Next *Tuesday* sevennight I am to leave *Scotland*. Lady *Mary H*—— Lord *L*—— and Lady *F*—— beg their compliments may be presented to your Ladyship. Many in *Scotland* pray most earnestly for you, and Mr. *R*—— intends writing your Ladyship a letter. I pray for you, honoured Madam, continually. I am quite happy in Him who died

upon the croſs to ſave me. I believe he will deliver me out of all; and if I die for him, ſo that I am not ſuffered to deny him, it will exceedingly pleaſe, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCC.

To the Same.

Honoured Madam, *Topcliff, Nov.* 1, 1748.

THUS far has a gracious and good GOD brought me in my way to *London*, which I hope to reach ſome time next week. Your Ladyſhip may expect to ſee me the next day I come to town. Thanks be to the LORD of all Lords for directing my way to *Scotland*. I have reaſon to believe ſome have been awakened, and many, many quickened and comforted. My old friends are more ſolidly ſo than ever, and a foundation I truſt has been laid for doing much good, if ever the LORD ſhould call me thither again. Two ſynods and one preſbytery brought me upon the carpet; but all has worked for good. The more I was blackened, the more the Redeemer comforted me. I deſire to cry, Grace! grace!

The love of CHRIST *doth me conſtrain,*
To ſeek the wandering ſouls of men;
With cries, entreaties, tears, to ſave,
And ſnatch them from the gaping grave.

For this let men revile my name,
No croſs I'd ſhun, I'd fear no ſhame;
All hail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

At preſent I add no more, but my moſt dutiful reſpects to your Ladyſhip, and with hearty prayers for your temporal and eternal welfare, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCI.

To Mr. R——.

My dear Friend, *Topcliff, Nov.* 1, 1748.

HERE, with thankfulneſs of heart, will I ſet up my *Ebenezer*; for hitherto aſſuredly hath the LORD helped me. We reached *Fetton* on *Saturday* night. There being no public worſhip on the Lord's-day, I came on to *Morpeth* to worſhip there; got to *Ferry-hill* on *Monday* evening, and to-night am writing at *Topcliff*. Though I do not preach, yet I hope I am preparing for it. Reading, prayer, and meditation are three neceſſary ingredients. Riding, and getting proper reſt, have recruited me; but I am apt to believe I have ſtrained myſelf inwardly. I feel ſenſible pain in my breath.—But no matter; it is for a good maſter, who bore inexpreſſible pain for me.

O LORD, *enlarge my ſcanty thought,*
To ſee the wonders thou haſt wrought;
Unlooſe my ſtammering tongue to tell,
Thy love immenſe, unſearchable.

I could write much, but my body calls for reſt. My very dear Sir, good night. May the Lord of all lords reward you, and my other dear honoured friends, a thouſand-fold. I intend writing to more very ſoon. In the mean while, pray preſent my ſincereſt reſpect and thanks to all. Incloſed you have Mr. *M*——'s letter and my anſwer. Be pleaſed to ſhew what Mr. *M*—— and Mr. ——— writes, and let them tell you how the affair between them was. I know you will act as a peace-maker. That the GOD of peace and love may dwell and rule in your dear heart, is the earneſt prayer of, my very dear friend,

Yours, &c.
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCII.

To the Honourable Lady D———.

Wantſworth (Northamptonſhire), Nov. 5, 1748.

Honoured Madam,

THOUGH I am now eighty miles from *London*, yet gratitude, and the unfeigned reſpect I bear to you and yours, will not ſuffer me to go any further, without ſending your Ladyſhip my repeated acknowledgments for your very many and repeated favours. Your kindneſſes, when laſt at *Edinburgh*, were indeed ſurprizing. They have often humbled me, and as often led me to the throne of grace in behalf of your Ladyſhip and honoured family. May the promiſe made to thoſe who are not aſhamed of CHRIST, his goſpel, and miniſters, deſcend upon you all! O that you may have grace given you to ſhine as lights in the world, and to dare to be ſingularly good, ſince it is too apparent that we live in a wicked and adulterous generation. Honoured Madam, let us look up: as our day is, ſo ſhall our ſtrength be. All things are poſſible to thoſe that believe. May the LORD JESUS evermore give your Ladyſhip and children a large ſhare of precious, purifying, operative faith! This is the earneſt deſire of my ſoul. Upon this I could enlarge, but travelling wearies me. Thanks be to GOD, I have that place in view, where the weary are at reſt. In a poſt or two I purpoſe writing to my Lord *B*——, his honoured lady, &c. I never forget any of them. They have my conſtant prayers and moſt cordial reſpects. Be pleaſed to accept the ſame, honoured Madam, from

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCIII.

To Lady ———.

Honoured Madam, *London, Nov.* 10, 1748.

I Wrote a line to dear Mr. *R*——, when about the middle of my journey. I muſt write a line to you, now the LORD of all lords hath brought me to the end of it. I truſt I can

ſay, JESUS was with me on the way. My health was ſenſibly improved; but, by ſitting up late to preach, I am grown a little ſick again. Good Lady *H*—— is come to town, and I am to preach at her Ladyſhip's houſe twice a week to the Great and Noble. O that ſome of them may effectually be called, and taſte of the riches of redeeming love! I need not inform your Ladyſhip, that this, and this alone, can give true reſt and peace to any ſoul. You have felt the beginnings of it. May you experience an increaſe of it more and more. I deſire my moſt tender and affectionate reſpects may find acceptance with dear Mr. *R*———, and with all who are pleaſed to honour me with their acquaintance. That grace, mercy, and peace may be multiplied upon you, is the continual prayer of, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCIV.

To Lord R———.

My Lord, *London, Nov.* 10, 1748.

I Believe I am not miſtaken, in thinking that your Lordſhip will not be offended with me for ſending you a ſhort letter. It is the effect of that unfeigned love I bear to your honoured father, yourſelf, and that dear and honourable family with which your Lordſhip is now ſo cloſely allied. And what ſhall I ſay? Can I wiſh your Lordſhip any thing greater, than that you may be a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST. It is a bleſſed thing to be engaged in fighting his battles; and not only to be almoſt, but altogether a chriſtian. It is this half-way religion that undoes the profeſſing world. The heart can never be at unity with itſelf, till it is wholly centered in GOD. This can only be done by faith in JESUS CHRIST; and when once a ſoul begins to taſte of this faith, then that ſoul's heaven begins on earth. I truſt I can ſay this by happy experience. I wiſh your Lordſhip a very large ſhare of it; and with hearty acknowledgments for all favours, beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient,
obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCV.

To Lady Mary H———.

Honoured Madam, *London, Nov.* 10, 1748.

THOUGH abſent from, yet I am not unmindful of you. The regard your Ladyſhip has been pleaſed to ſhew to a poor unworthy worm, calls for and claims my ſincereſt and moſt repeated acknowledgments. This letter brings them, and ſhall be followed, honoured Madam, as the LORD enables, with fervent prayers for your temporal and eternal welfare. O that you may be enabled to make a ſtand this winter for the LORD JESUS, and not in the leaſt countenance any of thoſe diverſions that have already brought religion ſo low in poor *Scotland!* I need not inform your Ladyſhip, what a bleſſed thing it is to be ſingularly good, and to be conſiſtent in our whole walk and converſation. To be uniform, and all of a piece, is the very life of a chriſtian. It is this, and not a compliance with the polite world in any of their fooleries, that will gain proſelytes to JESUS CHRIST. I could enlarge on this head, but I am perſuaded it is needleſs for your Ladyſhip. The glorious JESUS hath let you ſee too much of his love, for you ever to be taken up with any thing ſhort of his own eternal life! That he may knit your heart yet cloſer to himſelf, he is pleaſed to viſit you with croſſes. They are the chriſtian's portion, honoured madam: They are the believer's birthright. "In the world you ſhall have tribulation;" but what follows? "Be not afraid, I have overcome the world." Look, therefore, to Him, honoured madam, who, as he hath been the author, will alſo be the finiſher of your faith. That you may increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD, is the earneſt prayer of, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCVI.

To the Rev. Mr. M——.

London, Nov. 10, 1748.

Reverend and dear Sir,

OUR bountiful and good GOD brought me here in safety the beginning of this week. I have already waited upon, and preached at good Lady *H*———'s. About thirty have desired to come, and I suppose they will bring thirty more. I have heard of two or three more dear christians among the *Great Ones*. I know you will pray the LORD of all lords to increase the number. Her Ladyship hath a great regard for all those in *Scotland*, who stand up for vital religion. She intends to send you down the picture of poor *Aaron* the late negroe preacher. I find the public papers give strange lying accounts of my reception in *Scotland*. At present, blessed be the glorious JESUS, I am content to be blackened. I send you my repeated thanks for all favours; and, with hearty love to dear Mr. *G*———, your family, and all friends, I subscribe myself, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, obliged, though unworthy younger brother and servant in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCVII.

To the Reverend Mr. S——.

London, Nov. 12. 1748.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

BY my not hearing from you with my wife's letter, I suspect you are not yet reconciled to my leaving *America*, though but for a season. Every thing concurs to prove that I have done the will of GOD. As I am streightened in time, I will refer you to the inclosed, which I desire you will read, seal, and send. Here are loud calls; but I think to come over to you again next year. Pray write to me. I will endeavour to answer you. I wrote to you lately from *Scotland*. Not a day passes, but I think of you and my other *Charles-Town* friends. I intend to write to you very soon. In the mean

mean time, be pleaſed to remember me to all in the moſt tender manner. Ere this can reach you, I expect to ſee my wife in *England*. I purpoſe to perſuade her to ſettle here. I want to make the Orphan-houſe a ſeminary of learning. If ſome ſuch thing be not done, I cannot ſee how the *Southern* parts will be provided with miniſters. All are afraid to come over. May the LORD JESUS direct me. I believe he will. Pray remember me to Mr. *Z*——, Mr. *O*——, &c. if with you. I have not time at preſent, or otherwiſe they ſhould have a line from, reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCVIII.

To the Counteſs of H——.

Honoured Madam, *London*, *Nov.* 14, 1748.

THE incloſed brings good news from a far country. The perſon's mother belongs to the Tabernacle ſociety: I lay at his houſe when in *Virginia*; but he and others went to cards, I thought on purpoſe to affront me. We retired to prayers for him. I hope they were heard. Your Ladyſhip will be pleaſed to let me have the letter again; as likewiſe that I ſent to your Ladyſhip from *Scotland*, from one Capt. *K.* of St. *Helena*. Your Ladyſhip ſhall have copies of them all. I am getting the *New-England Chriſtian Hiſtory*, and *Biſhop Hall's Works* in folio, bound for your Ladyſhip. I find there has been a great ſtir in the ſynod of *Edinburgh* about unworthy me. Mr. *W*——, Mr. *J*——, Mr. *R*—— *W*——, have proteſted againſt their proceedings, and appeared quite hearty. Your Ladyſhip wrote to Mr. *R*——. A word or two of encouragement now from your Ladyſhip, would ſtrengthen the hands of theſe miniſters of CHRIST. I hear the affair is to come before the aſſembly next *May*. News alſo was brought me laſt night, that the negroes are allowed by the truſtees for *Georgia*. If ſo, that province, under GOD, will flouriſh. Bleſſed be GOD, I am more hearty than I have been for a long ſeaſon. I hope to be enabled to preach here on *Sunday* evening, and to come and preach at your Ladyſhip's afterwards. Laſt night the goſpel was indeed preached with the

the Holy Ghoſt ſent down from heaven. I was ſhewing the dignity of a chriſtian, and in what ſenſe chriſtians were kings, The King of kings was amongſt us. When I hear or receive any thing that is new and good, I naturally inform your Ladyſhip of it, becauſe I believe it will give your Ladyſhip ſatisfaction. I hope your new houſe is agreeable to your Ladyſhip. That the Redeemer's glory may fill it, and that it may prove a gate of heaven to many of the rich and great, is the earneſt prayer of, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCIX.

To the Honourable Lady T——.

Honoured Madam, *London, Nov.* 19, 1748.

WHEN I was lately in *Scotland*, Col. *G——ly* wrote me word, that your Ladyſhip was pleaſed to deſire my poor prayers. Before his writing, they had been put up to the throne of grace in behalf of your Ladyſhip very frequently; and I would then have written to your Ladyſhip, had I not feared it would have been making too free. Yeſterday good Lady *H———n* informed me that your Ladyſhip was ill. Had I judged it proper, I would have waited upon your Ladyſhip this morning. But I was cautious of intruding. However, the regard I bear to your Ladyſhip, conſtrains me to inform your Ladyſhip, that my heart's deſire and prayer to GOD is, that this ſickneſs may not be unto death, but to his glory, and the preſent and eternal good of your better part, your precious and immortal ſoul. This, no doubt, is the end of afflictions: GOD's name and nature is Love. He cannot, therefore, chaſtiſe us for any other purpoſe, than that we may be made partakers of his holineſs.—Every croſs and diſappointment, every degree of pain, brings this important call with it, "My ſon, my daughter, give me thy heart." O that your Ladyſhip's ſoul may echo back, "My heart, LORD JESUS, will I give." O that from a feeling, ſpiritual, abiding

ſenſe

ſenſe of the vanity and emptineſs of all created good, you may, in a holy reſentment, cry out,

Be gone, vain world, my heart reſign,
For I muſt be no longer thine:
A nobler, a diviner gueſt,
Now claims poſſeſſion of my breaſt!

Then, and not till then, will your Ladyſhip's mind be at unity with itſelf. Then, and not till then, will your Ladyſhip, upon truly rational principles, with chearfulneſs wait for the approach of death, and the coming of the LORD from heaven. It is faith in JESUS, a true and living faith in the Son of GOD, that can alone bring preſent, real peace, and lay a ſolid foundation for future and eternal comfort. I cannot wiſh your Ladyſhip any thing greater, any thing more noble, than a large ſhare of this precious faith: and a large, yea a very large ſhare, is the glorious Redeemer ready to give to all that ſincerely aſk for, and ſeek after it. He waits to be gracious. He giveth liberally; he upbraideth not. When, like *Noah*'s dove, we have been wandering about in a fruitleſs ſearch after happineſs, and have found no reſt for the ſole of our feet, he is ready to reach out his merciful hand, and receive us into his ark. This hand, honoured madam, is he reaching out to you. May you be conſtrained to give your heart entirely to him, and thereby enter into that reſt which remains for the happy, though deſpiſed people of GOD. But whither am I going? I forget that your Ladyſhip is indiſpoſed, and I almoſt a ſtranger to you. I will only make this apology: "The love of JESUS conſtrains me." Hoping, therefore, your Ladyſhip will excuſe the freedom I have here taken, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCX.

To the Reverend Mr. P——.

London, Nov. 19, 1748.

Reverend and dear Sir,

IT is a concern to me, that I cannot write to more of my *New-England* friends than I do; for indeed a multiplicity of buſineſs renders a more frequent correſpondence impracticable. However, I would willingly ſend you, dear Sir, a few lines. They are lines of love, and bring you news of my being better in health than I have been for many years laſt paſt. Several things have concurred to prove it was the divine will I ſhould return this time to my native country. Matters were in great confuſion by reaſon of Mr. *C*——'s going over to the *Moravians*; but bleſſed be GOD, we are now eaſy at the Tabernacle, and the word falls with weight and power. In *Scotland* the LORD JESUS was pleaſed to appear for me; I found no diminution in reſpect to the number of hearers; and, I believe, (thanks be to free grace) my preaching was more acceptable than ever to GOD's people, and to thoſe miniſters who were pleaſed formerly to own and encourage me. Some of the oppoſite party begun a like ſtir with that which was made in *New-England* by Dr. *C*——, &c. but I believe it will only make the people more eager to hear, and in the end be productive of great good. Our LORD orders all things well. I never enjoyed more ſettled peace and joy than now. I truſt he has given me to ſee many things that were wrong, and withal a diſpoſition to confeſs and amend them. At preſent, this is the language of my heart:

Correct me when I go aſtray,
And lead me in the perfect way.

I ſuppoſe you will be acquainted with particulars by ſome of my dear friends from *Scotland*. In all probability I ſhall go to *Scotland* again in the Spring; and, in the latter end of the year, I propoſe embarking for *America*. But future things belong to GOD. Thanks be to his great name, I am willing to go any

any where, so that I may but glorify the dear Redeemer. Ere this reaches you, doubtless you will have heard of his giving me favour in the sight of Lady *H——n*, a Lady as good as she is great. Two or three among the great, I trust have been made the happy subjects of redeeming love. I have heard lately also of the conversion of two or three clergymen; there is likewise a great awakening in *Ireland*, and in *Wales* the work goes on. Upon the whole, I believe the gospel is getting ground, and next spring, when it is proper to range about and preach in the fields, I hope to see yet greater things. I repeat my old request, reverend and dear brother, "Pray for us." I continually pray for you, and the people committed to your charge. I wish you and yours an increase of blessings, and beg leave to subscribe myself, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCXI.

To the Rev. Mr. L——.

My very dear Brother, *London, Nov.* 19, 1748.

WORDS cannot well express what I felt when your welcome letter came to hand. It drew me to my knees; it made me shed tears of joy, and with two or three of my dear friends I was enabled to wrestle for you at the throne of grace. Blessed, for ever blessed be the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, for opening your eyes, and giving you such an experimental and soul-ravishing knowledge of the doctrine of grace. No wonder that people take notice of you. I hope the fame thereof, as it hath reached heaven, will also be spread abroad upon the earth, and thro' the thanksgivings of thousands redound to the glory of GOD. I think it a happiness, that you are surrounded with many souls that have indeed tasted that the LORD is gracious, and consequently will be fed with the sincere milk of the word, now communicated to them, under GOD, by you. Now, my dear friend will you begin to live, now will you begin to preach indeed. Go on in the name of JESUS, and as *Paul* did, so shall you, "increase with all the increase of GOD." Glad shall

ſhall I be to give you all the aſſiſtance that lies in my power. *Henry on the Scriptures* will now ſuit your taſte, and *Jenks upon the Righteouſneſs of* CHRIST might do you immediate ſervice. *Flavel's Sermons* would be food for you, and *Boſton upon the Covenant*, and his *fourfold State*, I believe would delight you. *Biſhop Hall's Contemplations* are excellent, *Biſhop Hopkins* and *Beveridge* will do for you, and indeed almoſt all the writers a century ago. The doctrines you now preach are no new doctrines; you are now got into the good old way. May the LORD keep and ſucceed you in it, ever more and more. I believe he will. I could ſay more, but I expect another letter from you before I come down. Lady *H*—— is rejoiced to hear of you. I read part of your letter to her laſt night before I preached. Some of the great ones hear the goſpel gladly. That you may be made a very great bleſſing to thouſands and ten thouſands, is the hearty prayer of, my dear Mr. *L*——;

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXII.

To the Rev. Mr. P——.

London, Nov. 21, 1748.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Was glad to hear, by a letter ſent by Mr. *R*——, that you had been in *New-England*. I hoped you would have come further, even to Old *England* and *Scotland*. I have been endeavouring in *Scotland* to do all the ſervice I could to the *Indian* ſchool and the *New-Jerſey* college whilſt I was there; but I believe nothing will be done to purpoſe unleſs you or ſome other popular miniſter come over, and make an application in perſon. In all probability, a collection might then be recommended by the general aſſembly, which ſits next *May*, and large contributions be raiſed among private perſons that wiſh well to *Zion*. If one of the Indians was brought over with the miniſter, and a propoſal made to educate ſome of the late awakened *Indians* in the *New-Jerſey* college, it would certainly be of ſervice. Mr. *M*—— and ſeveral other faithful miniſters are hearty in the affair; but I believe will do nothing, unleſs you or ſome other ſuch like miniſter come over.

Probably

Probably I shall be in *Scotland* next spring again. GOD has been pleased to countenance me there; and some of the clergy, in order to stop my progress, have followed Dr. *C——y*'s example. But if GOD be for us, who can be against us? Thanks be to his holy name, I am kept quite chearful in soul, and healthy in my body. Blessed be GOD, the word falls with weight, and I hear of several brought under fresh convictions. A clergyman or two have been lately converted, and there is a great awakening in *Ireland*. I shall be glad to hear that *New-York* is full of new creatures. I beg that my most cordial respects and love may find acceptance with all my dear friends, and am, reverend and dear Sir,

Ever yours,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXIII.

To Mr. E——.

Dear Mr. E——, *Glouceſter, Dec.* 5, 1748.

WHY no letter from you all this while? I have written to you several times. Lately I sent a case full of divers things for *Bethesda*. When I return to *London*, I purpose to send more. I hear that my wife hath lessened the family; but how it stands now, I cannot expect to know for a certainty till I see her. I expect her daily, though I am apt to believe she will not embark till she sees *Betty W——*. I hope ere now you have welcomed her to *Bethesda* in the name of the LORD. I expect to be over with you again by this time twelvemonth. In the mean while, I trust we shall make some better advances towards heaven than we have hitherto done, and be more conformed to the blessed and glorious JESUS. Thanks be to his great name, he continues to deal bountifully with me. I am pretty well in health, and hope to hear that you are so. I send you all my blessing, and am

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCXIV.

To the Honourable Truſtees of Georgia.

Honoured Gentlemen, *Glouceſter, Dec.* 6, 1748.

NOT want of reſpect, but a ſuſpicion that my letters would not be acceptable, has been the occaſion of my not writing to you theſe four years laſt paſt. I am ſenſible, that in ſome of my former letters, through hurry of buſineſs, want of more experience, and in all probability too great an opinion of my own ſufficiency, I expreſſed myſelf in too ſtrong, and ſometimes unbecoming terms. For this I deſire to be humbled before GOD and man, knowing that, *Peter*-like, by a miſguided zeal, I have cut off as it were thoſe ears which otherwiſe might have been open to what I had to offer. However I can aſſure you, honoured gentlemen, to the beſt of my knowledge, I have acted a diſintereſted part, and notwithſtanding my manifold miſtakes and imprudence, I have ſimply aimed at GOD's glory and the good of mankind. This principle drew me firſt to *Georgia*; this, and this alone, induced me to begin and carry on the ſcheme of the *Orphan-houſe*; and this, honoured gentlemen, excites me to trouble you with the preſent lines. I need not inform you, honoured gentlemen, how the colony of *Georgia* has been declining for theſe many years laſt paſt, and at what great diſadvantages I have maintained a large family in that wilderneſs, through the providence of a good and gracious GOD. Upwards of five thouſand pounds have been expended in that undertaking, and yet very little proficiency made in the cultivation of my tract of land, and that entirely owing to the neceſſity I lay under of making uſe of white hands. Had a negroe been allowed, I ſhould now have had a ſufficiency to ſupport a great many orphans, without expending above half the ſum which hath been laid out. An unwillingneſs to let ſo good a deſign drop, and having a rational conviction that it muſt neceſſarily, if ſome other method was not fixed upon to prevent it. Theſe two conſiderations, honoured gentlemen, prevailed on me about two years ago, through the bounty of my good friends, to purchaſe a plantation in *South-Carolina*, where negroes are allowed. Bleſſed be GOD, this plantation hath ſucceeded; and though at preſent I have only eight working hands, yet in all probability there will be more raiſed in one

year, and with a quarter the expence, than has been produced at *Bethesda* for several years last past. This confirms me in the opinion I have entertained for a long time, that *Georgia* never can or will be a flourishing province without negroes are allowed. But notwithstanding my private judgment, I am determined that not one of mine shall ever be allowed to work at the Orphan-house, till I can do it in a legal manner, and by the approbation of the honourable trustees. My chief end in writing this, is to inform you, honourable gentlemen, of the matter of fact, and to let you know, that I am as willing as ever to do all I can for *Georgia* and the Orphan-house, if either a limited use of negroes is approved of, or some more indented servants sent over. If not, I cannot promise to keep any large family, or cultivate the plantation in any considerable manner. My strength must necessarily be taken to the other side. I would also further recommend it to your consideration, honourable gentlemen, whether or not as the Orphan-house was and is intended for a charitable purpose, it ought not to be exempted from all quit-rents and public taxes, as I believe is customary universally for such institutions to be? And as most of the land on which the Orphan-house is built, is good for little, I would humbly enquire, whether I may not have a grant for five hundred more acres that are not taken up, somewhere near the Orphan-house? My intention is, if you, honourable gentlemen, are pleased to put the colony upon another footing, (I mean in respect to the permission of a limited use of negroes) to make the Orphan-house not only a receptacle for fatherless children, but also a place of literature and academical studies. Such a place is much wanted in the southern parts of *America*; and if conducted in a proper manner, must necessarily be of great service to any colony. I can easily procure proper persons to embark in such a cause, and I do not know but several families would go over, supposing I could give them a probable prospect of a support upon their honest industry. I could say more, but I fear I have been already too prolix. I humbly recommend what has been urged to your consideration, and beg leave to subscribe myself, honourable gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXV.

To the Countess of H——.

Honoured Madam, *Bristol, Dec.* 10, 1748.

THOUGH I am afraid of taking too much freedom, yet the duty I owe to your Ladyship constrains me to send you a few lines from hence. I came hither last night, after having preached five times in *Gloucester*, and once in *Gloucestershire*. The glorious *Emmanuel* pleased to shine upon my administrations, and many told me they received a blessing. The bishop behaved respectfully when I was at sacrament at the cathedral, and my old tutor, Dr. *R*——, one of the prebendaries, was very cordial when I waited upon him. I told him that my judgment (as I trust) was a little more ripened than it was some years ago, and that as fast as I found out my faults I would be glad to acknowledge them. He said, as I grew moderate, the offence the Governors of the Church had taken against me, would lessen and wear off. Blessed be GOD, I am pretty easy about that: so that I can but act an honest part, and be kept from trimming, I will, through the divine assistance, leave all consequences to him who orders all things well. Thanks be to his great name, a wonderous change is wrought on Mr. *L*——. He came to see and hear me at *Gloucester:* his worldly shackles are dropping off apace, and his feet begin to be set in a large room. The news of his conversion hath reached Mr. *W*———, who wrote him a long letter; but to send dissuasives to a man that hath seen and felt so much, is like throwing chaff against a brass wall. He begged me to send his duty to your Ladyship when I wrote, as does my brother, at whose house I am. I trust he is coming forwards, and that he will at length fairly shake hands with the world, and act as one alive to GOD. I think your Ladyship meets with great encouragement. My continual prayer to the blessed Redeemer in your Ladyship's behalf is, "that your bow may abide in strength, and the arms of your hands be strengthened by the hands of the mighty GOD of *Jacob*." He is the rock of ages. He is the LORD our righteousness. In him is our strength found. Thanks be to the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS

CHRIST, for shewing your Ladyship the way to fetch continual strength and supplies from him! I could enlarge, but am straightened in paper. If Mr. *C*—— hath courage enough, I expect to see him, and then I shall have it in my power to send your Ladyship word how matters stand at *Bath*. In the mean while, I beg leave with all dutiful respects to subscribe myself, honoured madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXVI.

To Mr. B——.

My dear Tommy, *Bristol, Dec.* 12, 1748.

THE love I bear to you, will not suffer me to omit answering your letter the very first opportunity. I find you are in danger of being led into temptation. If only your preparations for business keep you from attending on the word preached, how will it be when you are totally immersed in it? O my dear man, let that promise of our LORD's be written on the tables of your heart, "seek you first the kingdom of GOD and his righteousness, and all those things shall be added unto you." If you act inconsistent with this, assure yourself your endeavours will be blasted, and GOD out of love will curse your temporal blessings. But enough of this. I hope a word to the wise is sufficient.—Since I wrote thus far, I have received a letter from good Lady *H*——*n*, desiring I would come up to town. I therefore propose to be with you, GOD willing, by *Saturday* night, and to preach at the Tabernacle next *Sunday*. Be pleased to apprize all friends of it. If you are at the tabernacle-house on *Saturday* evening, it would be very agreeable to,

Yours, &c. in great haste,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXVII.

To Mr. H—— H——.

London, Dec. 18, 1748.

I Can assure you, my not being able to write to you during my last excursion, has given me much concern. I love

to be punctual. Journeying, preaching, and a train of business for the best of masters, has prevented my being so now. I have been at *Gloucester*, in other parts of *Gloucestershire*, and at *Bristol*, where I trust the sound of my Redeemer's feet was heard behind me. My brother I hope is coming on. I like him better than I have for some years. He greatly regards you, and intends answering your kind letters. I proposed his meeting you here. What do you think of it? He likes it well. I wrote for him to come up next week. I expect to know by *Wednesday* or *Thursday*. If you could be here on a LORD's day, or a *Thursday*, you might see our assembly at the other end of the town. I trust, abiding good will be done among some at least of the rich and great. I thank you a thousand times for your advice in respect to my health.—For near these two months past, my usual reachings have left me. I find that keeping from too much fatigue, under GOD, must be my cure. I will endeavour to keep within bounds every way. I have shewed the doctor's letter to Lady *H*——, but she is of opinion, the journals as now corrected ought to be reprinted. In the multitude of councils there is safety; the language of my heart is,

LORD, *teach me when I go astray,*
And lead me in thy perfect way.

O that my zeal may increase with prudence. I have had too little of both. I am now thirty-four years of age, and alas! how little have I done and suffered for Him, who has done and suffered so much for me! Thanks be to his great name, for countenancing my poor administrations so much! I know not how it is, but perhaps it may be to display the riches of free grace, that notwithstanding the first zeal of most, I might add, all men of GOD, is generally mixed with much wildfire, yet their first times have been generally blest most, especially for awakening and converting souls. Blessed be our good GOD that Mr. *H*——— is coming out. May the LORD JESUS make him a spiritual father to thousands! I smiled when you said, he would avoid the name of *Methodist*, if he could. Alas, my dear man, he might as soon think to wash a blackmoor white. The *Methodists* are now as it were a skreen for others. Formerly, if a person was serious, or preached CHRIST, he was termed a *Puritan*, now he is a Methodist:

But

But do you go on as you are able to bear it. Oppoſition ſhall follow you; without it, be as prudent as you will, your ſincerity towards GOD and love for ſouls cannot be evidenced. Self, love of praiſe, and love of the world, muſt come down. Our LORD always does this, by way of ſufferings inward or outward, or rather by both. One Mr. *L*—— of *Glouceſterſhire*, whom Mr. *H*—— knows, though he has begun to preach CHRIST but lately, yet is already warned to leave his cure. Our LORD will provide for him. He is a new creature indeed. I do not blame you for your conduct towards Mrs. *D*——. She is a good woman, and I believe thirſts for the Redeemer's glory. I wiſh ſhe would not write ſo much. And what ſhall I ſay more? I hope you have had enough from me now. My very dear Sir, when am I to hear that you are a preacher of CHRIST crucified? I long for the time, and earneſtly pray that you may be freed from worldly hopes and worldly fears: for till then, I cannot believe a man, let his other accompliſhments be ever ſo great, will be much owned and bleſſed by the great head of the church. I ſhould be glad to know what my LORD of *Exeter* ſaid. I thank the LORD of all Lords for giving you ſo much encouragement. Let this excite you to preſs forwards, and never fear what man or devils ſay of, or can do unto you. Dear, very dear Sir, my heart is enlarged towards you. I thank you, for remembering an unworthy worm before him who is the great high-prieſt and bleſſed apoſtle of our profeſſion. As he enables, I ſhall return the favour, being, for his great name's ſake, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXVIII.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

London, December 18, 1748.

Reverend and dear Sir,

THOUGH I am not perſonally acquainted with you, yet I owe you much love. Thanks be to our great high Prieſt for giving you ſuch light and heat, and enabling you to preach among poor ſinners the unſearchable riches of redeeming love. Earth and hell will be up in arms againſt you; your own mother's children will ſoon be angry with

you, and many of the members of that church of which you are a minister, whenever you preach her doctrine with power and purity, will think it doing GOD's service to cast you out. Thus it has been, thus it will be in all ages, so long as those two seeds of the woman and the serpent remain struggling in this lower world. Welcome, welcome dear Sir, into the field of battle! Now the common people will hear you gladly. Now the self-righteous will speak all manner of evil against you. I am told the corporation have rejected you for preaching CHRIST crucified. I wish you joy. May you, like blessed *Paul*, increase the more in strength, and be made a spiritual father to thousands! Excuse this freedom from one who loves you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. I thank you for your intended interview. Could no way be contrived for a private visit? however that be, assure yourself your interest will be much upon my heart, and if you will remember a poor unworthy worm before his throne, whose compassions fail not, you will much oblige, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate brother
and servant in JESUS CHRIST,
G. W.

LETTER DCCXIX.

To Doctor D——.

London, Dec. 21, 1748.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

GLAD was I, yea very glad to receive your letter dated *November* 7th, though it did not reach me till last night. I thank you for it a thousand times. It has led me to the throne of grace, where I have been crying, "LORD, counsel my counsellors, and shew them what thou wouldst have me to do."—Alas, alas! how can I be too severe against myself, who, *Peter* like, have cut off so many ears, and by imprudencies mixed with my zeal, have dishonoured the cause of JESUS? I can only look up to him, who healed the high-priest's servant's ear, and say, "LORD, heal all the wounds my misguided zeal has given." Assure yourself, dear Sir, every thing I print shall be revised. I always have submitted my poor performances to my friends corrections. Time and experience

experience I find ripen men's judgments, and make them more solid, rational, and consistent, both in their conduct and writings. O that this may be my case! O that the blessed JESUS may enable me to hold on, and hold out, and keep me from flagging in the latter stages of my road. I thank you, dear Sir, for your solemn charge in respect to my health. Blessed be GOD, it is much repaired since my return from *Scotland*, and I trust by observing the rules you prescribe (if I must live) I shall be enabled to declare the works of the LORD. But what shall I say concerning your present trial? shall I wish you joy? Surely I may with great propriety, since an inspired writer hath said, "count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations." But at the same time, reverend Sir, I most earnestly sympathize with you, having had the same trial from the same quarter long ago. The *Moravians* first divided my family, then my parish at *Georgia*, and after that the societies which, under GOD, I was an instrument of gathering. I suppose not less than four hundred, through their practices, have left the tabernacle. But I have been forsaken otherways. I have not had above an hundred to hear me, where I had twenty thousand, and hundreds now assemble within a quarter of a mile of me, who never come to see or speak to me; though they must own at the great day that I was their spiritual father. All this I find but little enough to teach me to cease from man, and to wean me from that too great fondness which spiritual fathers are apt to have for their spiritual children. Thus blessed *Paul* was served, thus must all expect to be treated who are of *Paul*'s spirit, and are honoured with any considerable degree of *Paul*'s success. But I have generally observed, that when one door of usefulness is shut, another opens. Our LORD blesses you, dear Sir, in your writings; nay your people's treating you as they are now permitted to do, perhaps is one of the greatest blessings you ever received from heaven. May patience have its perfect work, and may you be enabled to sanctify the LORD GOD in your heart! I know of no other way of dealing with the *M——s*, than to go on preaching the truth as it is in JESUS, and rest upon that promise, "Every plant which my heavenly father hath not planted shall be plucked up." Seven years will make a great

alteration. I believe their grand design is to extend their occonomy as far as possible. This I believe is now kept up by dint of money, and I am apt to think that the very thing by which they think to establish, will destroy their scheme. *John Lapidee* went on in the same manner in *Maryland*. His plan was raised as high, and fell as remarkably. GOD is a gracious Father, and will not always let his children proceed in a wrong way. Doubtless there are many of his dear little ones in the *M———n* flock; but many of their principles and practices are exceeding wrong, for which I doubt not our LORD will rebuke them in his own time. But I fear that I weary you. However, dear Sir, I must thank you for your sermon. It contains the very life of preaching, I mean sweet invitations to close with CHRIST. I do not wonder you are dubbed a Methodist on account of it. As it was designed for the poor, I wish it was cheaper. I think practical books cannot be too reasonable. The poor must have them cheap, and the rich will like them the better for it. And now methinks I hear you say, "But how is it at the other end of the town?" Blessed be GOD, the prospect is promising. Last *Sunday* evening I preached to a most brilliant assembly indeed. They expressed great approbation, and some I think begin to feel. Good Lady *H——n* is indeed a mother in *Israel*. She is all in a flame for JESUS. You may guess by a word or two in this, that she hath shewn me your last letter. I suppose she will write to you soon. But whither am I running? I quite forget myself. Love makes my pen to move too fast, and too long. Excuse it, dear Sir, and for JESUS's sake never cease praying for, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate though unworthy
younger brother, and willing servant
in our common LORD,
G. W.

LETTER DCCXX.

Dear Mr. T——.

London, Dec. 21, 1748.

HAVE you not thought it unkind, that I answered not your letter before now. You will be pacified when I

tell you, that not want of love but leiſure hath been the cauſe of ſo long a ſilence. I will now redeem a few moments to pay this debt, and acknowledge a much greater debt of love that I owe, and intend indeed to be always owing to you and yours. CHRIST alone can pay you. He will. Whatever is done to his miniſters, he looks upon as done to himſelf. What a bleſſed maſter do we ſerve! Thanks be to his great name, he continues to deal lovingly with me. I have been bleſſed in my late excurſion into the country, and likewiſe ſince I came to town. The proſpect of doing good at leaſt to ſome of the rich, is very encouraging. I know you will pray, that the fooliſhneſs of preaching may be a means of bringing ſome of them to believe on him who juſtifies the ungodly. You find, that not gifts but grace, ſovereign, all powerful grace alone, can reach the heart. But how is dear Mr. *B*——*?* Is he yet fled to the world of ſpirits? Since the LORD has been pleaſed to hinder his preaching, I think it was cruel to deſire he ſhould ſtay any longer out of heaven. Doctor *Watts* is now gone. Bleſſed be GOD we ſhall ere long follow

Where ſin and pain and ſorrow ceaſe,
And all is love and joy and peace.

I am now thirty four years of age. Little did I think of living ſo long. And yet when I conſider how I have lived, ſhame and confuſion cover my face. O my dear Mr. *T*——, as you are preparing for the miniſtry, loſe not one moment of time, but labour to be always on the ſtretch for Him, who was ſtretched on the accurſed croſs for you. Study books and men, but above all, ſtudy your own heart and the knowledge of JESUS CHRIST, and him crucified. Get your heart free from worldly hopes and worldly fears, and you will avoid thouſands of thoſe ſnares, into which young miniſters for want of this too often fall. O let the language of your heart be, "GOD forbid that I ſhould glory, ſave in the croſs of CHRIST, by whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world." You will excuſe this freedom. It proceeds from the love I bear you. Be pleaſed to preſent my cordial reſpects to your honoured father, your brother, and all enquiring friends, and

accept

accept of the ſame yourſelf in the moſt tender manner, from, my dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXI.

To Mr. B——.

My dear Brother, *London, Dec.* 26, 1748.

AS ſoon as I received your kind letter, I was willing, but till now could not get leiſure, to anſwer it. Accept my thanks, though late, and let the glorious *Emmanuel* have eternal thanks aſcribed unto him, if he has been pleaſed to work upon your ſoul by any of my poor writings. Since that, I doubt not but you have experienced much of his love, and know more of GOD, even a GOD in CHRIST, and alſo of your own heart. In theſe two things conſiſts all our happineſs in time and for eternity. Bleſſed be his name for calling you to witneſs the efficacy of his death, and the unſearchable riches of his grace to poor ſinners. My dear brother, it is an angelic employ. Go on in the name and ſtrength of JESUS. He will not ſend you a warfare on your own charges. As your day is ſo ſhall your ſtrength be. Only wait upon him, and eternal truth has declared, that you ſhall mount on wings like an eagle, you ſhall walk and not be weary, nay run and not be faint. Should providence bring me your way in the Spring, I ſhall rejoice to ſee and converſe with you, and ſhall tell all that come in my way, of the preſent as well as future great ſalvation that is to be had in JESUS CHRIST. In the mean while, I entreat you to pray for me, and as enabled you ſhall be remembered by, my dear Brother,

Your affectionate brother and ſervant

for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTE

LETTER DCCXXII.

To Lord B——.

My Lord, *London, Dec.* 30. 1748.

I Had the honour of your Lordſhip's letter. Gratitude conſtrains me to ſend my heartieſt acknowledgments. Though abſent from, yet I am often preſent with you. That benign, that ſweet diſpoſition of which your Lordſhip is poſſeſſed, muſt make you appear amiable to all who know you. Add but the chriſtian to it, and then, O then, how happy will your Lordſhip be! Thanks be to GOD, that your Lordſhip begins to feel there is no being happy without real chriſtianity. O that this conviction may be abiding, and that your Lordſhip may have no reſt, till you find it in Him who is the Alpha and Omega, the author and finiſher of our faith. He longs to make you happy, he is ready to receive you with open arms. He cries, "My ſon, give me thy heart." To engage you to love him more, he has let you have a worthy lady, who I am perſuaded will be glad to go hand in hand to heaven. O that you may both walk in all the ordinances and commandments of the LORD blameleſs. No greater thing can be deſired for you at the throne of grace by, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient, obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXIII.

To Lady B——.

Honoured Madam, *London, Dec.* 30, 1748.

HAVE you not wondered at my not anſwering your Ladyſhip's kind letter before now? But I am perſuaded you are well aſſured, that a variety of avocations, and multiplicity of buſineſs for the beſt of maſters, not want of reſpect, hath been the cauſe. My Lady, your family are always upon my heart. My conſtant deſire and prayer to GOD is, that you all may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. As my Lord mentions nothing to the contrary, I hope your indiſpoſition is removed, and that the language of your heartis, "what ſhall I render unto the LORD?" I know that the love of JESUS which

which you have felt, must necessarily constrain your Ladyship to live to Him, who lived and died upon the accursed tree for you. O how is the power of the Redeemer's resurrection displayed in Lady *H———n*. She is a mother in *Israel* indeed. It would please you to see the assemblies at her Ladyship's house. They are brilliant ones indeed. The prospect of catching some of the rich in the gospel net is very promising. I know you will wish prosperity in the name of the LORD. But how does good Lady *D——*, dear Mrs. *C——*, and Mrs. *I——?* All, I hope, putting off the old man, and putting on the new with greater earnestness than ever. O that I may begin to be in earnest! I am now thirty-four years of age. Is it not time for me to begin to spend, and be spent, for him who has loved me and given himself for me? I beg your Ladyship's prayers, and the prayers of all your dear and honoured relations. I send them all my humble and hearty respects, and beg you will accept the same from, my Lady,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXIV.

To Mr. H—— H——.

My dear Brother, *Chelsea, Jan.* 12, 1749.

I Can now send you but a few lines. Thanks be to GOD, that weeping doth not hinder sowing. I think it is cruel to wish our little ones back into this cold world again. Go on, JESUS will be better to you and yours than seven daughters. I hope Mrs. *H——* joins with you in saying, "it is well." But a word or two in answer to the other part of your letter. Cannot you be at *Glocester* the 24th of this month? That would be abundantly more convenient for me than the 27th. I would appoint our *English* meeting at that time, and, GOD willing, would go with you to *Builth*, and after that to the west. I am now here waiting for LORD *B——ke*, and some others, who are coming to hear the glorious gospel. Lord *L——* is in town. Our good Lady is going on, and every day increasing her reward in heaven. I have much to say when we meet. When will you leave off being a spiritual rake? For the present, adieu! Pray fail not being at *Glocester*.

ceſter. In the mean while, let us ply the throne of grace in behalf of each other, and do you pray that an humble, child-like, obedient heart, may be given to, my very dear fellow-ſoldier,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXV.

To the Reverend Mr. H——.

Chelſea, Jan. 13, 1749.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

YOUR kind and loving anſwer to my laſt poor ſcrawl, humbled me much before Him who alone worketh all things in and by us. But if he will work, who ſhall hinder? I truſt the language of my heart to the ever-bleſſed JESUS is this,

If thou excuſe then work thy will,
By ſo unfit an inſtrument;
It will at once thy goodneſs ſhew,
And prove thy power omnipotent.

You will not be offended if I tell you, that good Lady *H——n* ſaw your letter. She was much pleaſed with it, and has a great regard for you. She goes on from ſtrength to ſtrength. The proſpect of doing good to the rich that attend her Ladyſhip's houſe, is very encouraging. I preach twice a week, and yeſterday Lord *B———ke* was one of my auditors. His Lordſhip was pleaſed to expreſs very great ſatisfaction. Who knows what GOD may do? He can never work by a meaner inſtrument. O dear Sir, pray for me. I want humility, I want thankfulneſs, I want a heart continually flaming with the love of GOD. Bleſſed be his name for the ſhare imparted to you. May you go on and increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD! I thank you for your kind invitation to your houſe and pulpit. I would not bring you or any of my friends into difficulties, for owning poor, unworthy, ill and hell deſerving me. But if providence ſhould give me a clear call, I ſhould be glad to come your way. I rejoice in the proſpect of having ſome miniſters in our church pulpits that dare own a crucified

a crucified Redeemer. I hope the time will come that many of the prieſts alſo ſhall be obedient to the word, and that of the honourable women there will be not a few. I know you will ſay *Amen*. For the preſent, my dear Sir, adieu. Remember me to the doctor, and Mr. *H*——, when you write to or ſee them, and aſſure yourſelf of a conſtant remembrance in the poor but ſincere petitions of, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in the beſt bonds,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXVI.

To Dr. S———.

Very dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 17, 1749.

I Received your laſt kind letter, ſoon after I had been informing dear Mr. *H*—— that I did not chuſe to bring my friends into trouble; but that if providence ſhould give me a clear call, I might accept of his invitation. This perhaps may never happen. But if it ſhould, wherefore ſhould dear Mr. *S*—— be ſo much alarmed? What if his people are prejudiced againſt me? Might not a ſermon, under GOD, leſſen their prejudices, and perhaps awaken ſome ſouls to a ſenſe of the divine life? Such things have been done, ſuch a thing, through the divine bleſſing, may be repeated again. The way of duty is the way of ſafety. Our LORD requires of us to confeſs him in his goſpel members and miniſters. To be afraid of profeſſing the one, or publicly to own, aſſociate with, and ſtrengthen the hands and hearts of the other, eſpecially when they are ſet for the defence of the goſpel, is, in my opinion, very offenſive in the ſight of our common LORD, and can only proceed from a want of more love to him and his dear people. I am quite of your mind, my dear friend, that our LORD recommends to us the wiſdom of the ſerpent, but then it is always to be blended with the innocence of the dove. How this is done, in effect, by diſowning the open and avowed proclaimers of his eternal truths, I cannot I muſt confeſs at preſent ſee into. You ſay, "we are moſt of us too warm already:" but I hope you do not think, that being aſhamed of any of your LORD's miniſters is an inſtance of it? Thanks be to GOD that Mr. *H*—— ſeems, as you expreſs it, "to court

court the enmity of mankind;" it is an error of the right ſide. Better ſo than to be afraid of it. The LORD never threatned to ſpew any church out of his mouth for being too hot; but for being neither hot nor cold he has. It is too true, my dear Sir, "we have but few faithful miniſters." But is keeping at a diſtance from one another the way to ſtrengthen their intereſt? By no means. I rather think thoſe that hold the ſame principles at leaſt, and are embarked in the ſame cauſe, ſhould jointly and publicly appear for GOD.—And to tell you my whole mind, I do not believe GOD will bleſs either you or your friends to any conſiderable degree, till you are more delivered from the fear of man. Alas, how was you bowed down with it, when I ſaw you laſt! And your letter beſpeaks you a ſlave to it yet. O my brother, deal faithfully with yourſelf, and you will find a love of the world, and fear of not providing for your children, have gotten too much hold of your heart. Do not miſtake me. I would not have you throw yourſelf into flames. I would only have you act a conſiſtent part, and not for fear of a little contempt be aſhamed of owning the miniſters of CHRIST. After all, think not, my dear Sir, that I am pleading my own cauſe. You are not in danger of ſeeing me at *N——n*. I only take this occaſion of ſaying a word or two to your heart. You will not be offended, as it proceeds from love. You may ſhew this to dear Mr. *H——*. I ſalute him, the dear doctor, and dear Mr. *H——*, moſt cordially. I hope the ſeed is ſown among the rich to ſome purpoſe. Laſt *Thurſday* Lord *B——ke* was one of my hearers. Brethren pray for us; you are never forgotten by, very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXVII.

To Mr. S——.

London, Jan. 18, 1749.

My very dear Mr. S——,

I Have received from you two very kind letters, the laſt of which made me to ſmile indeed. Alas, my dear man, what airy caſtles are you building? Were your ſanguine expectations

pectations to take place, might I not juſtly ſay to my friends, "*Quid vultis, ut peream?*" But bleſſed be GOD, there is yet no danger. The goſpel is not got ſo near the court as you imagine. However, ſome of the mighty and noble come twice a week to hear at good Lady *H——n*'s, and the proſpect of doing good amongſt them is very encouraging. One or two I truſt are effectually touched. Pray on, and who knows what a great fire a little ſpark may kindle? I wiſh the LORD may anſwer your requeſt, and give you a religious governor. I cannot ſee how I can ſerve dear Mr. *B——*. I ſhould be very ſhy of aſking any favours, ſuppoſing I had intereſt, leſt I ſhould be thought to preach for myſelf and not for CHRIST JESUS my LORD. I would fain convince all, that I ſeek not theirs but them. I am ſorry you have met with ſo many loſſes of late; but all our loſſes will be found to be gain in the end. Bleſſed are they that love GOD! All things are even now working together for their good. About *Auguſt* I purpoſe, GOD willing, to embark for *Carolina*; though my friends ſay not, I believe they will be miſtaken. Ere this reaches you, I hope GOD will have raiſed you up Paſtors after his own heart. Pray remember me in the moſt endearing manner to all that I was acquainted with, and tell them I live in hopes of ſeeing them once more in the fleſh. I heartily ſalute all, and am, very dear Mr. *S———*,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXVIII.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Briſtol, Jan.* 28, 1749.

I Think it is now high time for me to trouble your Ladyſhip with a few lines. They come to thank your Ladyſhip ten thouſand times for all favours, and to inform you that our glorious Redeemer orders all things well. On *Wedneſday*, through winds, rain and froſt, I reached *Glouceſter*, and preached there the ſame evening. The next day we held our aſſociation, and, thanks be to GOD, affairs turned out better than expectation. I came hither this evening, where I found

my

my brother in the very temper I could wish, "seemingly quite fixed to leave the world for GOD." He tells me of a Colonel, who heard me once in the Summer, that now wants to know if his sins are forgiven. My brother's visit to town has been greatly blessed to him. Surely your Ladyship will never know, till the day of judgment, the great ends GOD had in view in calling your Ladyship to *London*. I rejoice in the prospect of seeing your Ladyship happy amidst a crowd of your spiritual children, who will come to you from time to time to be built up in their most holy faith. You will suffer many pangs for them; but all shall work for your Ladyship's present and eternal good. I suffer much in my bodily health for preaching to the nobility; but, thanks be to GOD, that some seem to have an hearing ear, and an understanding heart. My warmest prayers are continually ascending to the throne of grace for your Ladyship, and for all those who have heard the word, especially those honourable women that used to join with your Ladyship in receiving the sacred symbols of the Redeemer's blessed body and blood. My cry to our LORD in their behalf is this,

Take their poor hearts, and let them be
For ever clos'd to all but thee.

I forgot to tell your Ladyship, that the *Welch* justices have ordered the twenty pounds, exacted of the Methodists by Sir *W*——, to be returned. I can add no more, but my most grateful acknowledgements for all kindnesses, and subscribe myself, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful and willing servant
for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXIX.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Bristol, Feb.* 1, 1749.

YESTERDAY I had the favour of your Ladyship's letter; and am glad to find that Lady *G*——'s journey will not be altogether in vain. Our LORD will note, in his book, your Ladyship's endeavour to serve her, and reward

you openly before men and angels, for this and all other your works of faith, and labours of love. I am glad your Ladyſhip approves of Mr. *W*——'s conduct, and that he hath preached at your Ladyſhip's. The language of my heart is, "LORD, ſend by whom thou wilt ſend, only convert ſome of the mighty and noble, for thy mercy's ſake! Then I care not if I am heard of no more." I am much obliged to thoſe honourable ladies who are pleaſed to ſend me their good wiſhes. In return, they have my earneſt prayers that they may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD. For my own part, I long to take the field. I truſt we ſhall ſee a glorious Spring, and hear of many ſouls crying out, "What ſhall we do to be ſaved?" Bleſſed be GOD, we have ſolid ſeaſons here. I truſt I can with truth ſay, "The goſpel has been preached with the Holy Ghoſt ſent down from heaven." Next *Monday*, GOD willing, I ſhall travel further *Weſtward*. In the mean while, I purpoſe to preach here, and at *Kingſwood*, and to take a ſtep to *Bath*. Mr. *C*—— was here yeſterday, and brought me a benefaction from Miſs *S*——, of fifteen guineas, moſt or all of which I purpoſe paying to Mr. ———, towards diſcharging what is due to him for the Orphan-houſe. Thus doth the LORD help me, who long ago deſerved to be baniſhed from his preſence for ever, and to be employed in his work no more. I am glad your Ladyſhip approves of Mr. *G*——: He is, I think, a worthy man. By taking this method, your Ladyſhip will have an opportunity of converſing with the beſt of all parties, without being a bigot, and too ſtrenuouſly attached to any. Surely in this your Ladyſhip is directed from above. The bleſſed JESUS cares for his people of all denominations. He is gathering his elect out of all. Happy they, who, with a diſintereſted view, take in the whole church militant, and, in ſpite of narrow-hearted bigots, breathe an undiſſembled catholic ſpirit towards all. That your Ladyſhip may increaſe and grow in this ſpirit, and conſequently increaſe in true divine happineſs every day, is and ſhall be the conſtant prayer of, Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient
humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCXXX.

To the Countess of D——.

Honoured Madam, *Bristol, Feb.* 1, 1749.

WILL your Ladyship pardon me, if I inform you, that love and gratitude constrain me to send your Ladyship a few lines? As I am daily praying for the temporal and eternal welfare of your Ladyship, and your honourable sister, so I cannot help informing you, that I trust you have both such a view of the present great salvation, purchased for the very chief of sinners by the blood of CHRIST, that you will neither of you be at rest, till made real partakers thereof. Has not your Ladyship already had a taste of this inward happiness? Assuredly you have. Should not this encourage your Ladyship to expect, seek after, and pray for unspeakably more? Undoubtedly it ought. The fulness which is in JESUS is inexhaustible. Out of that fulness your Ladyship may be always receiving grace for grace. Thanks be to GOD for teaching you the way! Let not your honoured sister think herself too unworthy of such a mercy. Jesus is worthy; she hath nothing to do but to bring all her unworthiness to the LORD our righteousness, and accept of compleat salvation as a free gift. Hearing, when last in town, that your Ladyship would not be offended if I wrote, encouraged me to take the liberty of troubling your Ladyship with this. As the glorious *Emmanuel* enables, it shall be followed with my most fervent prayers, which have been, are, and, through JESUS CHRIST strengthening, shall always be put up in behalf of yourself, and your honourable sister, by, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged, obedient
humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXI.

To Mr. ——.

My dear Sir, *Bristol, Feb.* 4, 1749.

THE contents of your letter surprized me; and yet it is time for me to learn to be surprized at nothing. But what shall we say? It must needs be that these trials should

come, to wean us from every creature, and teach us to live by faith in the Son of GOD. Had you ſucceeded, you certainly would have met with ſome thorn in the fleſh, to keep you from being elated too much. Perſons of ſuch ſanguine diſpoſitions as you and I are, always need one from ſome quarter or another. By your letter, this trial has done you good already. Be thankful for it, therefore, my dear Sir, and ſay from your inmoſt ſoul, "the cup, which my heavenly Father hath given me, ſhall I not drink it?"—We are but poor chooſers for ourſelves. GOD ſees not as we ſee. It is a comfort when we can ſay, we have eyed GOD in any affair; but if that affair be plainly diſconcerted by his providence, we may be certain it is for good. I found it ſo in a like circumſtance, when my affections were much more engaged than yours neceſſarily muſt have been. I wiſh you joy of being called to leave a worm for GOD, and in your ſubmiſſion to his divine appointment. "Surely, (ſays the prophet that was ſent to anoint one of *Jeſſe*'s ſons) "the LORD's anointed is before me." He gueſſed ſeveral times; but always gueſſed wrong, till little *David* was ſent for, who was thought nothing of. And if a prophet was miſtaken, when thus ſent in a peculiar manner, and no doubt particularly engaged in prayer for direction, is it any wonder, that we ſhould find ourſelves miſtaken in many things, even when we have been moſt earneſt with GOD for guidance and direction? GOD often guides us by diſappointments; and I doubt not but you will find ſome better thing is prepared for you. What the LORD hath done to you, though you know not now, yet you ſhall know hereafter.

I.

Leave to his ſovereign ſway
To chooſe and to command;
So ſhalt thou wond'ring own his way,
How wiſe, how ſtrong his hand.

II.

Far, far above thy thoughts,
His counſel ſhall appear,
When fully he the work hath wrought,
Which caus'd thy needleſs fear.

You

You see, dear Sir, my concern for you by the length of this letter. As you are, I trust, my own son in the faith, so I cannot avoid naturally caring for you. My letter shall be followed with my prayers. Be resigned. I am better in health than when I left town; and am much blessed in preaching. You know how to give thanks in behalf of

Your sympathizing friend,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXII.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Exon, Feb. 9. 1749.*

YOUR Ladyship's laying your commands upon me to write often, makes me uneasy unless I can redeem time to send to your Ladyship at least once a week. Blessed be GOD, I can inform your Ladyship, that there was a great stirring among the dry bones at *Bristol* and *Kingswood*. Last Lord's-day was a great day of the Son of Man. The power of the LORD attended the word, as in days of old, and several persons, that had never heard me before, were brought under great awakenings. A counsellor came once, and was so affected, that when he got home he invited others to come and hear, which so alarmed his lady, (ready to die of a consumption) that she is afraid her husband will go mad. Last night I came hither, and had the pleasure of seeing some spiritual children that were begotten unto GOD when I was here last. This evening I am to begin to spread the gospel-net; and shall continue in *Exeter* till *Monday*. Affairs have been so confused, that it requires some time to settle them. I find a death must come upon all we do, that the life of it may appear to be wholly of GOD. I hope your Ladyship finds that the Redeemer's work flourishes in your hands. I long to hear, whether my letters were kindly received, and whether the seed sown by me or any other springs up. Whoever plants, or whoever waters, I know it is the LORD must give the increase. Mr. *C*—— is vastly attached to your Ladyship's interest, and, I believe, prays continually for your success. Many do so, whom your Ladyship knows not. Your Ladyship's letter to Mr. *R*—— I find is blessed much. It is

the good man's lot, that whatsoever he doth shall prosper. May this be fulfilled in your Ladyship more and more every day! I could enlarge, but must away to my delightful work. People are waiting. This late journey has been blessed to the recovery of my health. I have not had any of my usual disorders since I left town. I am sometimes faint. But, "Faint, and yet pursuing," must be the christian's motto. I hope my most dutiful respects will find acceptance with those honourable persons whose faces are set *Zion-wards*, and that your Ladyship will accept the same from, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged, obedient,
and willing servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXIII.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Plymouth, Feb.* 16, 1749.

THE last time I wrote to your Ladyship, I was at *Exeter*, where I begun on *Sunday* evening to preach in the open air.—Abundance of souls attended, and I trust real good was done. In the morning, grace flowed richly round the congregation; and many knew experimentally that CHRIST was risen, by his giving them to experience the power of his resurrection in their hearts. On *Monday* I went to *Bovey-Tracey*, about 12 miles from *Exeter*, where I found several poor simple souls. Here also the fountain of life was open, and I believe some drank at, and others felt the want of it. The next morning I preached at a place called *Mary-Church*, where are supposed to be near a score of awakened souls, who have undergone much outward trouble for adhering to the cross of CHRIST. Most of their bitterest opposers were present. All was calm; and the power of the LORD accompanied the word. After sermon I rode twenty miles to *Kingsbridge*, where, to my great surprize, I found about a thousand souls waiting till eight in the evening to hear the word. Though nature said, "Spare thyself," I thought faith and duty said, "Venture upon the LORD's strength, and speak to them." I did, from these words of our dear LORD's: "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day:

day: the night cometh when no man can work." I preached in the ſtreet. The moon-ſhone. All was quiet; and I hope ſome begun to think of working out their ſalvation with fear and trembling. The next morning I preached there again; four miniſters attended. Our LORD was pleaſed to make it a very fine ſeaſon. After ſermon I had the pleaſure of hearing, that by two or three diſcourſes preached at this place about 5 years ago, many ſouls were awakened. One young man, then called, is ſince a preacher; he was in a tree partly to ridicule me. I ſpoke to him to imitate *Zaccheus*, and come down and receive the LORD JESUS. The word was backed with power—He heard, came down, believed, and now adorns the goſpel. From *Kingſbridge* to *Plymouth*, is near twenty poſt miles. Hither I came laſt night. About ten miles from the town, I met ſeveral of my ſpiritual children, who came on horſeback to ſee me. When I came into the town, many hundreds were waiting to hear the word, and received me with great joy. Though it was paſt ſeven at night, and I had preached at *Kingſbridge* in the morning, I thought it my duty to comply with the people's importunity, and accordingly I called upon them, (in a place ſtiled the tabernacle, built ſince I have been abſent) to behold the Lamb of GOD. I find a ſtrange alteration in the people ſince I came firſt here, now above four years ago. Many were then awakened, and truly converted to the bleſſed JESUS. I write in a houſe belonging to a married couple, who call me their ſpiritual father. *Plymouth* ſeems to be quite a new place to me. I have alſo juſt now parted from a truly converted neighbouring clergyman, who has invited me to preach in his church. Ere long I hope to ſend your Ladyſhip ſome more good news. In the mean while, I wiſh your Ladyſhip the beſt of bleſſings; and entreat your Ladyſhip to pray, that a chearful, humble, ſimple, and guileleſs heart may be given to, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, though unworthy
ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCXXXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. C——.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Plymouth, Feb.* 20, 1749.

I Had the pleaſure of receiving your letters dated *December* 29th and 31ſt. I thank you a thouſand times for this, and all your other favours. I did not think Mr. *H*——'s friendſhip would hold long. It will be time enough for me to ſpeak to and of him, when I ſee *Bermudas* again, which I propoſe doing, GOD willing, as ſoon as poſſible. In the mean while, I would only obſerve, that if I am a *Roman Catholic*, the Pope muſt have given me me a very large diſpenſation. Surely Mr. *H*—— has acted like one, to pretend ſo much friendſhip, and expreſs it in the ſtrongeſt terms, and yet have nothing of it in his heart all the while. But thus it muſt be. Dear Sir, we muſt be tried every way. *Hic murus aheneus eſto*, &c. As for any ſecrets that I told him, he is very welcome to reveal them. You know me too well to judge I have many ſecrets. May the ſecret of the LORD be with me! and then I care not if there was a window in my heart for all mankind to ſee the uprightneſs of my intentions. I long to have *Bethesda* a foundation for the LORD JESUS. If I can procure a proper ſolid perſon of good literature, who will be content to ſtay two or three years, ſomething may be done. I am now in the *Weſt*, and have begun to take the field. Great multitudes flock to hear; and our LORD is pleaſed apparently to countenance my poor unworthy miniſtrations. I have the pleaſure of ſeeing the ſeed, which was ſown juſt before I embarked laſt for *America*, ſpring up, producing an hundred-fold. May JESUS have all the glory! Perhaps (O amazing love!) he has not done with me yet. I am better in bodily health than uſual, but expect to be ſick again when I return to *London*. Thither I muſt go in about a fortnight, to preach again to ſome of the Rich and Great, as well as the Poor. I find it is a trial, to be thus divided between the work on this and the other ſide of the water. I am convinced I have done right in coming over now; and I keep myſelf quite diſengaged, that I may be free to leave *England* the latter end of the Summer, if our LORD is pleaſed to make my way clear.

clear. I hope, as you say nothing to the conrrary, that all friends are well. I beg to be remembered to them all in the kindest manner, and depend much on their not forgetting to pray for, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXV.

To Lady H———.

Honoured Madam, *Plymouth, Feb.* 21, 1749.

I Believe it will much rejoice your Ladyship's heart to hear what is doing in the *West*. I could not have thought that the seed sown four years ago, would have met with such a great increase. But what cannot GOD do? I have now proclaimed here seven times the riches of redeeming love, to very large, attentive, and affected auditories. Generally about two thousand attend every night; and the *Sunday* evening, in the field, I believe there were above five thousand hearers. On *Wednesday*, GOD willing, I move hence. My short stay affects the people. But our LORD orders all things well. I hope to be in town at my appointed time, at least within a few days of it. If Mr. *B*—— is not returned, I shall be grieved to think how your Ladyship will want the ordinance; but, thanks be to GOD, the fountain is open, and your Ladyship knows the way to it. Last Lord's-day I administered the sacrament to some few souls that had no pastor; and I could have wished your Ladyship present to have seen an affecting sight,—two parents, both believers, presenting two daughters and a son, in the most solemn manner, for the first time to be communicants. I received them with all joy; and our LORD graced the feast with much of his divine presence. Indeed, my good Lady, affairs bear a very promising aspect. I hear that much good has been done at *Bristol*. Every where fresh doors are opening, and people flock from all quarters. Prejudices, I find, do subside, and, through grace, strong impressions are made on many souls. I have not been so well, for so long a season together, for many years, as I have been since I left town. A proof, I think, that the LORD calls me into the fields. I hear how your Ladyship has been, by the

B——p.

B——p. Alas! how does the enmity of the heart ſometimes make perſons to forget good manners! Your Ladyſhip has been taught of GOD to forgive and pity. Well, if the great ſhepherd and biſhop of ſouls has work to be done, he will raiſe up inſtruments, and find ways to ſend them out.

I.

Thoughts are vain againſt the LORD,
All ſubſerve his powerful word;
Wheels encircling wheels muſt run,
Each in courſe to bring it on.

II.

Bleſt is faith, that truſts his power,
Bleſt are ſaints that wait his hour;
Haſte, great conqueror, bring it near,
Let the glorious cloſe appear.

I know that your Ladyſhip will ſay heartily, *Amen.* I doubt not but your Ladyſhip enjoys much of his preſence, which is better than life. I hope your honourable and right honourable viſitants ſhare richly with you. I beg leave to ſend them, and your Ladyſhip, my moſt dutiful reſpects, and ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, though unworthy ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXVI.

To Lady G——.

Honoured Madam, *Plymouth, Feb.* 22, 1749.

YOUR Ladyſhip's letter I received yeſterday; I truſt under ſome ſenſe of the honour your Ladyſhip has done me, through the King of kings making me inſtrumental in quickening or building up your Ladyſhip's precious and immortal ſoul. Like a pure chryſtal, I would tranſmit all the glory he is pleaſed to pour upon me, and never claim as my own, what is his ſole propriety. Thanks be to his great and glorious name, for putting it into your Ladyſhip's heart to ſay ſincerely, "LORD, increaſe my faith." When I had read your Ladyſhip's letter, I could not help obſerving what a connection

nection there was between the present frame of your Ladyship's heart, and your present circumstances in respect to your servant. For how is it, honoured Madam, that our faith is to be increased, but by our being exercised with trials? By these the christian grows; and faith, like the burning bush amidst the furnace of affliction, flourishes unconsumed. Blessed be GOD, that your Ladyship hath taken hold of a great and precious promise. Our LORD has promised, "that he will not suffer us to be tempted above what we are able to bear." And he is faithful that hath promised. We have nothing to do, but to plead his promise in prayer. Be pleased, therefore, honoured Madam, to solace yourself, under your present distress, with these lines:

I.

With joy we meditate the grace
Of our High-priest above;
His heart is made of tenderness,
His bowels melt with love.

II.

Touch'd with a sympathy within,
He knows our feeble frame;
He knows what sore temptations mean,
For he has felt the same.

III.

He, in the days of feeble flesh,
Pour'd out his cries and tears;
And in his measure feels afresh,
What every member bears.

IV.

Then let our humble faith address
His mercy and his power;
We shall obtain delivering grace,
In the distressing hour.

This is, and shall be, honoured Madam, my daily prayer on your behalf. Fear not; our LORD will take care that all shall work for good. Those who are sincere, will soon get over such stumbling blocks; and those that are not, will stumble at any thing, nay every thing. I bless GOD, that

ſome have got their faces ſet *Zion-wards*. Of the honourable women, ere long, I truſt, there will be not a few who will dare to be ſingularly good, and confeſs the bleſſed JESUS before men. O with what a holy contempt may the poor deſpiſed believer look down on thoſe, who are yet immerſed in the pleaſures of ſenſe, and amidſt all the refinements of their unaſſiſted, unenlightened reaſon, continue ſlaves to their own luſts and paſſions. Happy, thrice happy they! who begin to feel and experience what it is to be redeemed from this preſent evil world. Well may they count all things but dung and droſs for the excellency of the knowledge of CHRIST JESUS their Lord. Well may they look upon the few righteous, as the only truly excellent ones of the earth; and chooſe rather to ſuffer affliction with the people of GOD, than enjoy the pleaſures of ſin for a ſeaſon. You, honoured Madam, I truſt, are one of this happy number. May all your children add to it, and follow your Ladyſhip, as they ſee you follow CHRIST. I hope that ſome have been inclined to liſt under his banner, ſince I left town. Indeed the glorious Redeemer has dealt bountifully with his people, and with unworthy me. The good Lady *H———n*, I ſuppoſe, hath informed your Ladyſhip of ſome pleaſing particulars. I hope to acquaint you of more at my return to town. In the mean while, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXVII.

To the Counteſs of D——.

Honoured Madam, *Plymouth, Feb.* 22, 1749.

YESTERDAY I had the favour of your Ladyſhip's letter, which I would have anſwered immediately, but was engaged both in company, and in preaching the everlaſting goſpel. Your Ladyſhip's anſwering my poor ſcrawl, was an honour I did not expect; but, ſince your Ladyſhip is pleaſed thus to condeſcend, I am encouraged to make a reply. And give me leave to aſſure your Ladyſhip, that your own caſe, and that of your honoured ſiſters, have been, and are always upon my heart. I pray for both in public and private, though

though none knows whom I mean. Bleſſed be the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, who, I truſt, hath imparted a ſaving knowledge of his eternal Son to your Ladyſhip's heart. Your letter beſpeaks the language of a ſoul which hath taſted that the LORD is gracious, and hath been initiated into the divine life. Welcome, thrice welcome, honoured Madam, into the world of new creatures! O what a ſcene of happineſs lies before you! Your frames, my Lady, like the moon, will wax and wane; but the LORD JESUS, on whoſe righteouſneſs you ſolely depend, will, notwithſtanding, remain your faithful friend in heaven. Your Ladyſhip ſeems to have the right point in view, to get a conſtant abiding witneſs and indwelling of the bleſſed Spirit of GOD in your heart. This the Redeemer has purchaſed for you. Of this he has given your Ladyſhip a taſte; this, I am perſuaded, he will yet impart ſo plentifully to your heart, that out of it ſhall flow rivers of living waters. This JESUS ſpake of the Spirit, which they that believe on him ſhould receive. As you have, therefore, honoured Madam, received the LORD JESUS, ſo walk in him even by faith. Lean on your beloved, and you ſhall go on comfortably through this howling wilderneſs, till you arrive at thoſe bliſsful regions,

Where pain, and ſin, and ſorrow ceaſe,
And all is calm, and joy, and peace.

And O that your honoured ſiſter may go hand in hand with your Ladyſhip! Wherefore doth ſhe doubt? Wherefore doth ſhe fear? Why does not her Ladyſhip ſay,

To the bleſt fountain of thy blood,
Incarnate GOD, *I fly;*
Here let me waſh my ſpotted ſoul,
From ſins of crimſon dye.

Honoured Madam, is it not a fountain opened? Opened for all that will come, and waſh at, and drink of it? Entreat her Ladyſhip, therefore, honoured Madam, not to be faithleſs, but believing. Beg her to come, or rather be pleaſed to inform her Ladyſhip, that her Saviour entreats and commands her to come juſt as ſhe is, and to accept of ſalvation as a free-gift. O

that with Queen *Eſther* ſhe may ſay, "If I periſh, I periſh." Then ſhall ſhe ſee the King of kings holding out a golden ſceptre, and not an iron rod. But I forget myſelf again. Honoured Madam, be pleaſed to pardon me, and accept what I have written as the overflowings of a heart that hath been wreſtling with GOD, for the ſalvation of your Ladyſhip, your honoured ſiſter, and of all related to you. This is the beſt proof I can give of my being, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient,
and willing ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCXXXVIII.

To the Counteſs of H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Exeter, Feb.* 24, 1749.

AFTER I wrote to your Ladyſhip laſt poſt, from *Plymouth*, I received the letters you was pleaſed to communicate to Mr. *C*———. They came quite unexpected. I think it is enough, that my letters are received, not without being anſwered; but the LORD JESUS will humble me by mercies. O that they may have that bleſſed effect upon my ſoul! Incloſed, your Ladyſhip hath my anſwers. I have ſent them open, that your Ladyſhip may (if not too long) peruſe them. Whilſt I was writing, the fire kindled, and I did not well know how to leave off. I rejoice that your Ladyſhip hath ſuch a promiſing proſpect of doing good among the rich and great. Mr. *C*———, in his laſt, writes thus: "Mr. *G*—— went with me to wait on her Ladyſhip; where he owns he ſpent two hours with more pleaſure, than he ever remembered to have done in any company before: and, I muſt freely own, he ſpoke my own ſentiments." I believe that your Ladyſhip will daily reap the fruit of a catholic ſpirit, and a free converſation with the truly gracious of all denominations. It is a conduct truly god-like. Dear Mr. *T*—— has much of it. I parted from him on *Thurſday* afternoon. He was once almoſt blinded by weeping under the word. He was rejoiced to ſee the flocking at *Plymouth*. Indeed it was very encouraging. Our LORD ſeemed to keep the beſt wine until the laſt. At *Taviſtock*, ten miles from *Plymouth*, I preached

laſt

laſt *Thurſday*, but was rudely treated. For, whilſt I was praying, ſome of the baſer ſort brought a bull and dogs, and diſturbed us much. But I hope that good was done. Bleſſed be GOD, we know ſome has been done. I converſed with three or four, that have been awakened by the reading of ſome of my printed ſermons. Surely the Apoſtle ſpoke like himſelf, when he ſaid, "GOD has choſen the weak things of this world, to confound the ſtrong; and things that are not, to bring to nought the things that are." I am now come thus far in my return to *London*. I purpoſe, GOD willing, being there in about ten days. On *Monday* next I ſhall ſet out for *Briſtol*; where, as I am informed, the infinitely condeſcending Redeemer has been pleaſed greatly to bleſs my laſt viſit. When I think of *London*, I feel a kind of fear and trembling, leſt my bodily ſickneſs ſhould return again, and I ſhould not ſpeak to the Mighty and Noble, ſo as to win them to the ever-bleſſed JESUS. But I deſire to throw myſelf blindfold into his hands, believing, (LORD, help my unbelief!) that as my day is, ſo ſhall my ſtrength be. At preſent, honoured Madam, this is the language of my heart, to Him, whoſe I am, and whom I deſire to ſerve:

A life that all things caſts behind,
Springs forth obedient to thy call;
A heart, that no deſire can move,
But ſtill t'adore, believe, and love,
Give me, my LORD, *my life, my all!*

I hope this will find your Ladyſhip quite happy under the ſhadow of redeeming love. I wiſh your Ladyſhip an increaſe of that happineſs every moment, as being, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, though moſt
unworthy humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCXXXIX.

To Mr. C———.

My dear Mr. C———, *Exeter, Feb.* 25, 1749.

YOUR laſt, with the incloſed, you may be ſure gave me ſatisfaction, at the ſame time as they, I truſt, humbled me before him, who will ſend by whom he will ſend. This poſt carries anſwers to the honourable women. I ſuppoſe that you will be pleaſed to find I am thus far in my return to *London*. O my friend, my friend, I come with fear and trembling. To ſpeak to the rich and great, ſo as to win them to the bleſſed JESUS, is indeed a taſk. But wherefore do we fear? We can do all things through CHRIST ſtrengthening us. But why does Mr. *C*——— think it ſtrange, that no-body can be found to help me in the country? Is it not more ſtrange, that you ſhould lie ſupine as it were, burying your talents in a napkin, complaining that you have nothing to do, and yet ſouls every where are periſhing about you for lack of knowledge? Why do you not preach or print? At leaſt, why do you not help me, or ſomebody or another, in a more public way? You are in the decline of life, and if you do not ſoon reaſſume the place, you are now, through grace, qualified for, you may loſe the opportunity of doing ſo for ever. I write this in great ſerioufneſs. May the LORD give you no reſt, till you lift up your voice like a trumpet! Up, and be doing, and the LORD will be with you. I can now no more, but inform you, that, GOD willing, I am to be at *Briſtol* next *Tueſday*, where letters on *Wedneſday* morning may find, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXL.

To Mr. S———.

Very dear Mr. S———, *Exeter, Feb.* 27, 1749.

I Am aſhamed to think that your laſt kind letter has lain by ſo long unanſwered; but journeying, preaching, and a multiplicity of other buſineſs has prevented me. I ſhall not carry on the

the debate; only I must thank you for receiving my letter in so friendly a manner; and entreat you, though a host of enemies are behind; and a whole sea of troubles before you; to go forwards. That was the command the great JEHOVAH gave to his servant *Moses*, when under very pressing circumstances, so that he knew not what to do. The LORD's impressing and affecting persons under your exhortation, is a token for good. It is good to be led on step by step into whatever plan providence intends to call us. "He that believeth doth not make haste." Our business is to follow, and improve the light we have, and that is the way to get more. You know who hath said, "to him that hath shall be given, and he shall have more abundance." May this promise be fulfilled in your heart! But why does my friend write so about assurance, or think he is too sinful to expect such a favour? Have you learnt CHRIST no better yet? Who more sinful than *Paul* or the jaylor, *Zaccheus* or *Magdalene?* and who more assured of their salvation? My dear Mr. *S*——, do not think so hardly of the glorious Redeemer. Draw near to him with boldness, though the greatest of sinners, and urge that as an argument, why he should give you the greatest and most abiding assurance of his everlasting love. This is the only argument I can use in respect to my own soul. Fear not, dear Sir, though clouds return after the rain; ere long I trust the glorious and ever-blessed spirit will not, as to his comforts, be like a way-faring man, tarrying only for a night, but come and make a continued abode in your heart. The language of my soul for you is, "Come LORD JESUS, come quickly!" May I expect an answer to this in *London*. Thither I am now going from the west, where I have been for about a month, and through grace have seen that the seed sown just before my embarking last for *America*, has sprung up and produced fruit unto GOD. To him be all the glory. The impressions made upon some of the great ones do remain. Good Lady *H*——— sends me good news. Be pleased to remember me as usual to doctor *D*—— and Mr. *H*——, and believe me to be, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLI.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Briſtol, March 1, 1749.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I Am much obliged to you for your laſt kind letter. It was ſo agreeable, that I ſent it to good Lady *H*——. Her Ladyſhip writes me word "that it was a letter after her own heart." She loves a Catholic ſpirit, and I truſt you are not deceived in your thoughts concerning me in this reſpect. If I know any thing of my deſperately wicked and deceitful heart, I truly love all that love the glorious *Emmanuel*, and though I cannot depart from the principles which I believe are clearly revealed in the book of GOD, yet I can chearfully aſſociate with thoſe that differ from me, if I have reaſon to think they are united to our common head. This induced me to call upon good Mr. *L*——, whoſe books many years ago were bleſſed to my ſoul, when the work that is now ſpreading, was then only in embryo. I am juſt come from the weſt, where I have had the pleaſure of ſeeing the ſeed ſown juſt before I laſt embarked for *America*, ſprung up and bearing much fruit. All glory be to Him who alone giveth the increaſe. I have alſo had two letters from ſome honourable women, who I truſt have received the grace of GOD in truth; and Lady *H*——*n* writes me word, that "the proſpect of doing good at my return to *London* is very encouraging." Thither I am now bound. I go with fear and trembling, knowing how difficult it is to ſpeak to the great, ſo as to win them to JESUS CHRIST. I ſometimes am ready to ſay, "LORD, I pray thee have me excuſed, and ſend by whom thou wilt ſend." But divine grace is ſufficient for me. I can do all things through CHRIST ſtrengthening me. My dear brother, fail not to pray for me, that I may hold on and hold out to the end, and in proſperity and adverſity preſs forward with an even, chearful, meek and lowly mind towards the mark, for the prize of our high calling in CHRIST JESUS. I am glad to hear that doctor *S*—— goes on ſo well. I gueſs he will not be ſuffered long to halt. It is no matter how ſoon all worldly ſhackles are knocked off, and perſons ſet at liberty

(ſuppoſing

(ſuppoſing they have a proper call) to range for GOD. I find there is no hopes of compromiſing matters. Nobody can be ordained that is a Methodiſt. Well! the time may come, when many of the prieſts alſo ſhall be obedient to the word. They come laſt; but then many of them come together. I know you will ſay, Amen! Let me hear from you ſhortly again. You ſhall have as quick returns as can be given you by, my dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLII.

To Lady H———.

Honoured Madam, *Glouceſter, March* 4, 1749.

HAVING been moving this week from place to place, I could not write to your Ladyſhip as uſual, and even now my body is ſo fatigued, that I cannot ſay much. However, I would beg leave to inform your Ladyſhip that the glorious *Emmanuel* continues to ſmile upon my poor labours, and that about the middle of the week, by his leave, I purpoſe waiting upon your Ladyſhip in *North Audley-ſtreet*. I doubt not but I ſhall find your Ladyſhip riper for heaven, than when I left *London*. There you will be always thronged with company, and yet free from the leaſt diſtraction. On earth it is otherwiſe. However, as we advance in the divine life, we ſhall be more and more conformed to thoſe miniſtring ſpirits, who, though waiting on us below, do always behold the face of our heavenly Father above. This divine leſſon, honoured madam, GOD has begun to teach you. May you daily make a proficiency therein, ſo that your progreſs may be made known unto all men! I will follow as faſt as I can, though alas! with too ſlow a pace. I muſt now add no more, but my uſual prayers for your Ladyſhip's temporal and eternal welfare, and haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful though unworthy humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLIII.

To Mr. B———.

Dear Billy, *London, March* 10, 1749.

I Have juſt now heard, that a ſhip will ſail for *Philadelphia* in a day or two. I cannot therefore miſs the opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your laſt kind letter. I am ſorry it brought me ſuch bad news concerning the ſtate of religion in your parts. My conſtant prayer for you, and my other *Philadelphia* friends is this, "LORD, revive thy work in the midſt of the years." Notwithſtanding ſo wide a door is opened here, and a proſpect of doing much good lies before me, yet I have ſettled thoughts of embarking for *America* in the fall. But future things belong to GOD. His I am, and I deſire to be entirely at his alwiſe diſpoſal. My wife is not yet arrived; I hear ſhe is yet upon the water. May the LORD JESUS be her convoy! I am juſt returned from an excurſion of about ſix hundred miles in the weſt, where I had the pleaſure of ſeeing, that the ſeed ſown before I embarked laſt for *America*, had been bleſſed abundantly. Glory be to Him, who alone has given the increaſe. The news you have had of my preaching to ſome great ones, is true; I have done it for ſome time twice a week, and thanks be to the bleſſed Redeemer, it has already produced good effects. Lady *H*—— is a mirror of piety indeed. In time, I truſt of the honourable women there will not be a few, who dare to confeſs the LORD JESUS before men. You muſt remember me to all. I have ſcarce time to write this, ſo can only ſend one general ſalutation. The LORD JESUS be with all your ſpirits, Amen and Amen! The bearer, Mr. *H*——, ſeems to be well recommended as an honeſt man. He is an entire ſtranger to every body in *America*, and I believe has a mind to ſettle in *Philadelphia*. I am deſired to write a line in his behalf. You will do what you can for him, becauſe he is a ſtranger. I could write much more, but am interrupted. Adieu, my dear man, for the preſent. Pray keep near the ever-bleſſed Redeemer, and fail not to pray for and write to

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCXLIV.

To Mr. S——.

London, March 11, 1749.

My very dear Mr. S——,

I Wiſh you joy. I truſt you may now ſay, "Now I begin to be a diſciple of JESUS CHRIST." You know who has commanded us to rejoice and be exceeding glad when men ſeparate from our company, and ſpeak all manner of evil againſt us falſely for his name's ſake. Thanks be to GOD, you have at length found out, that whoſoever attempts to reconcile GOD and the world, is attempting to reconcile two irreconcilable differences. They are as oppoſite as light and darkneſs, heaven and hell. You have nothing to do, but to go on doing, and then ſing with an holy triumph,

For this let men revile my name,
I ſhun no croſs, I fear no ſhame;
All hail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

You know he is faithful, who hath promiſed, "that he will never leave nor forſake you." Wait on him therefore, dear Sir, and you ſhall renew your ſtrength, nay you ſhall mount on wings like an eagle; you ſhall walk and not be weary, you ſhall run and not be faint. Various are the trials inward and outward that you will meet with. It is in the ſpiritual as in the natural birth. The after-pangs are ſometimes ſharper than thoſe that precede the new-birth itſelf. If you are made uſe of by JESUS CHRIST, no wonder that ſatan deſires to have you, that he may ſift you as wheat. But fear not; JESUS prays for you; your faith therefore ſhall not fail. How was *Paul* humbled and ſtruck down before he was ſent forth to preach the everlaſting goſpel? Prayer, temptation, and meditation, ſays *Luther*, are neceſſary ingredients for a miniſter. If GOD teaches us humility, it muſt be as *Gideon* taught the men of *Succoth*, by thorns. This I ſuppoſe is what dear Mr. *H*—— means; he has been converſant with Mr. *L*——, and writes much therefore in his way. I find he is for making thorough work of it, and digging deep in order to build high. He is certainly

right; but why we ſhould not preſs after and continually plead for aſſurance, which is every where through the holy ſcriptures ſpoken of as the common portion of GOD's children, I cannot yet ſee. It is a falſe humility to be content without that which GOD offers and promiſes to give. Let him give it in his own way and time; but, "LORD give me a full aſſurance of faith, that I may joy and rejoice in thee evermore!" ſhould be the conſtant cry of your ſoul. My dear Sir, I could enlarge, but I muſt away to our good Lady *H——n*'s. You muſt not expect to ſee her till *Auguſt*. I preached at her Ladyſhip's on *Thurſday*, and am to do ſo weekly. I expect to leave town in about a month. Pray let me ſee you if poſſible. A new ſcene will open to you, now you begin to act publickly for CHRIST; but I muſt bid you farewel. Adieu. May the LORD JESUS be with your ſpirit! Write often, and you ſhall be anſwered, GOD willing, as ſpeedy as poſſible by, my very dear friend,

Ever yours whilſt

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLV.

To the Rev. Mr. G——.

My dear Brother, *London, March* 17, 1749.

WHAT a bleſſed thing it is, that we can write to, when we cannot ſee one another! By this means we increaſe our joys, and leſſen our ſorrows, and as it were exchange hearts. Thanks be to the LORD JESUS, that the work flouriſhes with you. I am glad your children grow ſo faſt; they become fathers ſoon; I wiſh ſome may not prove dwarfs at laſt. A word to the wiſe is ſufficient. I have always found awakening times like ſpring times. Many bloſſoms, but not always ſo much fruit. But go on, my dear man, and in the ſtrength of the LORD you ſhall do valiantly. I long to be your way, but I ſuppoſe it will be two months firſt. My love awaits Mrs. *H——* and all that love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. Pray tell my dear Mr. *I——* that I cannot now anſwer the *Preſton* letter, being engaged in anſwering a virulent pamphlet, entitled, "*The Enthuſiaſm of the Methodiſts and Papiſts compared*," ſuppoſed to be done by the Biſhop

Biſhop of *E*——. Thus it muſt be. If we will be temple builders, we muſt have temple builders lot; I mean, hold a ſword in one hand and a trowel in the other. The LORD make us faithful *Nehemiahs*, for we have many *Sanballats* to deal with! but wherefore ſhould we fear? If CHRIST be for us, who can be againſt us? *Nil deſperandum, chriſto duce*, is the chriſtian's motto. My dear brother, good night. May the LORD JESUS be with your ſpirit, and make you wiſe to win ſouls, even wiſe as an angel of GOD! Remember me in the kindeſt manner to honeſt hearted Mr. *I*——, and tell him, that in a poſt or two I hope he will hear again from

His and your moſt affectionate though unworthy
brother and fellow-labourer in CHRIST's vineyard,
G. W.

LETTER DCCXLVI.

To the Rev. Mr. W——.

Reverend and dear Sir, *London*, *April* 5, 1749.

YOU cannot well tell how much ſatisfaction your laſt kind letter gave me. It was like yourſelf, like a father in CHRIST, to write to ſtrengthen the hands of one, who is not yet half your age, but I truſt ready to ſpend and be ſpent for the good of precious and immortal ſouls. I ſee that you have heard how kind my enemies have been to me. They have told me of my faults, and by their oppoſition have given me an opportunity of confeſſing them. I am juſt now publiſhing a pamphlet, in anſwer to one publiſhed againſt the Methodiſts, upon the title-page of which I intend to have theſe words, "Out of the eater came forth meat." O how good, how infinitely wiſe is JESUS CHRIST! How careful to cauſe all things to work together for good to thoſe who love him. I have reaſon to ſpeak well of him, as a promiſe-keeping Saviour. I doubt not, but he will greatly bleſs and own you in the latter ſtages of the road, and cauſe you to go off like a ripe ſhock of corn. It will rejoice you to hear that conviction work is going on in *England* and *Wales*. I believe the holy ſpirit is powerfully working on ſome of the Rich, and the Poor ſeem rather more eager than ever to hear the goſpel. I am much engaged, ſo that I have ſcarce time to ſee or write to

any; but in heaven there will be time enough, and but just enough too:

For O eternity's too short,
To utter all CHRIST's *praise.*

You will be pleased to return my most cordial salutations to your wife, and all that desire the welfare of such a worthless worm. As our common Lord enables, you and they shall be remembered by, Reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLVII.

To the Rev. Mr. H———.

Rev. and dear Sir, *London, April* 5, 1749.

YOUR kind letter would not have lain by me unanswered so long, had I not been necessarily employed in affairs of immediate consequence. At Lady *H*——'s request, I read part of it to some of the nobility, who approved of it very much. By your leave, I will put a sentence or two of it, without mentioning names, into a pamphlet I am now fitting for the press. I suppose you have seen it advertised. I want to own and publicly confess my public mistakes. O how many, how great have they been! How much obliged am I to my enemies for telling me of them! I wish you could see my pamphlet before it comes out. I just now wrote to Doctor *S*——— to see if he cannot meet me this day sevennight, or contrive some way for conveyance of my little piece to him. O that it may be blessed to promote GOD's glory, and the good of souls! You will be glad to hear that our LORD has given us a good passover, and that the prospect is still encouraging among the Rich. I intend leaving town in about a week, and to begin ranging after precious souls.—But I shall wait for the doctor's answer. You judge right when you say, "it is your opinion that I do not want to make a sect, or set myself at the head of a party." No, let the name of *Whitefield* die, so that the cause of JESUS CHRIST may live. I have seen enough of popularity to be sick of it, and did not the interest of my blessed Master require my appearing in public, the world should hear but little of me henceforward. But who

can

can desert such a cause? Who, for fear of a little contempt and suffering, would decline the service of such a Master? O that the Lord JESUS may thrust out many, many labourers into his harvest? Surely the time must come, when many of the priests also shall be obedient to the word. I wait for thy salvation, O LORD!—But I must bid you farewel. Praying that you may grow under the cross, and be enabled to flourish unconsumed in fire, I subscribe myself, Reverend and dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLVIII.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *Gloucester, April* 15, 1749.

IT has given me some concern, to think that I was so long in town after I took leave of your Ladyship, and could neither see nor write to you. The last letter I was about to write, I found myself too ill to hold a pen long enough in my hand to finish it. Blessed be GOD, I find myself now much better. Travelling, as usual, does me service, and the joy of the LORD supplies the want of bodily strength. Ere long I hope to send your Ladyship some good news out of the country. I came hither this morning, and am to preach to night. In a post or two your Ladyship may expect to hear from me again. In the mean while my prayers will be continually putting up, that you may increase with all the increase of GOD. I hope the elect countess is perfectly recovered of her late indisposition, and that Lady *Fanny*, *H*——, *C*——, &c. are determined to go on in that narrow way which leads to everlasting life. Before I left town, I desired Mr. *H*—— to send your Ladyship a dozen of my pamphlets, to be presented to the foresaid Ladies, and to whomsoever your Ladyship shall please besides. As many more may be had as your Ladyship sends for. May the LORD give it his blessing, and cause me to grow wiser and better by all his various dispensations towards me. I shall now take my leave; and after wishing your Ladyship, and the other honourable women that are seeking JESUS, much

much of that rest which remains for the people of GOD, I shall subscribe myself, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXLIX.

To the Countess D——.

Honoured Madam, *Bristol, April* 19, 1749.

THE unfeigned regard I have for your Ladyship, will not suffer me to be long out of *London* without sending a line to enquire after your Ladyship's welfare. I hope this will find you perfectly recovered from, or meekly resigned under, your late bodily indisposition. I believe your Ladyship hath reason to say, "It is good for me, that I have been afflicted;"—and sanctified afflictions are undoubtedly signs of special love. To come purified out of the furnace, and to find that some of our dross is purged away by the LORD's putting us into the fire, is indeed an evidence that he is praying for us, and that our faith, however tried, shall not finally fail. O Madam, what a blessing is it to be able to say, "I know in whom I have believed!" How does such an assurance sweeten every bitter cup, and make even death itself to appear with an angel's face! O that all who are destitute of this unspeakable gift, were convinced of their want thereof, and set upon hungering and thirsting after it! I hope your honoured sister will be one of these. I have her Ladyship much upon my heart, and do earnestly pray that she may be strengthened, established, and settled in the love of GOD, and determine to know nothing but JESUS CHRIST and him crucified. I send her Ladyship my most dutiful respects, and beg you would accept of the same, from, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCL.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *Portsmouth, May* 8, 1749.

GLAD, very glad was I to hear, in a letter sent me by Mr. *H*——, that your Ladyship was better; and glad am I,

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yea very glad, that I can ſend your Ladyſhip good news from this part of the country. The night after I came here, I preached to many thouſands, a great body of whom was attentive, but ſome of the baſer ſort made a little diſturbance. A very great oppoſer ſent for me to his houſe immediately, and could ſcarce refrain weeping all the time I was with him. On the *Friday* evening I preached at *Goſport*, where the mob has generally been very turbulent, but all was huſhed and quiet, and as far as I could find, all approved. Every time the word has ſeemed to ſink deeper and deeper into the people's hearts, and their affections ſeem to be more and more drawn out. In ſhort, I hope I can inform your Ladyſhip that *Portſmouth* is taken, and that we ſhall hear of many who will in earneſt ſeek after the one thing needful. I have a great mind to go to the iſle of *Wight*, but am not yet determined. Here is a knot of ſincere ſouls, that ſeem to love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. Several date their awakenings from their hearing *T*——— *G*———, who I hear is to be ordained by the Biſhop of *W*——, but I doubt it. Laſt night I had ſweet converſation with two of the devout ſoldiers that have been abroad. They are ſoldiers indeed. Bleſſed be GOD, that there are ſo many of his children ſcattered up and down, who I truſt will give him no reſt, till he makes *Jeruſalem* a praiſe through the whole earth. I do not forget Lady *F*——, the Counteſs, or any of thoſe who ſeemed inclined to follow JESUS of *Nazareth*. O that they may be ſteady, and be enabled with full purpoſe of heart to cleave unto the LORD! I beg that my moſt humble and dutiful reſpects may find acceptance with them and your Ladyſhip, from, honoured madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient
humble ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLI.

To the Rev. Mr. M——.

Portſmouth, May 11, 1749.

Rev. and very dear Sir,

IT concerns me much, that one whom I ſo much honour, and ſo dearly love in the bowels of JESUS, ſhould hear

ſo

ſo ſeldom from me. Twice have I endeavoured to anſwer your laſt kind letter, but have been prevented, by want of health, a multiplicity of buſineſs, and frequent removes from place to place. About three weeks ago I was ſent for up to *London* to ſee my wife, but ſhe is not yet arrived. However, it has been over-ruled to the bringing me here, where I have been preaching every day for this week paſt, to very large and attentive auditories, who come to hear with great eagerneſs. I hear of many that are brought under convictions, prejudices ſeem to be univerſally removed, and a people that but a week ago were ſpeaking all manner of evil againſt me, are now very deſirous of my ſtaying longer amongſt them to preach the everlaſting goſpel. What cannot GOD do? After I remove hence, I purpoſe, GOD willing, to take a tour into *Wales*, where Mr. *H*—— tells me the work is upon the advance. We have lately renewed our connection, and whether I ſtay in *England* or go abroad, he and ſome more have agreed, in the ſtrength of the LORD, to continue preaching at the Tabernacle and elſewhere as formerly. At *London*, matters have advanced ſucceſsfully. Real good has certainly been done among the Rich, and the Poor receive the goſpel with as much gladneſs as ever. My outward embarraſſments are much leſſened, and I hope ere long to be able to ſay, "I owe no man any thing but love." Many doors are open, and I have thoughts, if poſſible, of ſeeing *Scotland* this year. But at preſent I am in a ſtrait, and continually ſaying, "LORD, what wouldeſt thou have me to do?" Sometimes I think I muſt either drop my *Engliſh* or *American* work; but our LORD knows beſt how to diſpoſe of me. I would be as clay in his hands, and ready to go whitherſoever he is pleaſed to call me. I ſhould be glad to hear of a revival at *C*——; but, dear Sir, you have already ſeen ſuch things as are ſeldom ſeen above once in a century. I am afraid that ſome good men's calculations about the latter-day glory are premature, and that it is not ſo near at hand as ſome imagine. This is our comfort, a thouſand years in the LORD's ſight are but as one day. He that comes, will come, and will not tarry. Take courage, my dear Mr. *M*——; look up, and go on your way rejoicing. You will remember me moſt kindly to your dear yoke-fellow, *Nathaniel*, little *R*——, and the

young ſtudent in your houſe, and all dear friends. Indeed I do not forget though I cannot write to you. GOD will not forget your works of faith, and the many favours conferred on, my very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in CHRIST JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLII.

To the Counteſs D——.

Portſmouth, May, 12, 1749.

Honoured Madam,

I Juſt now roſe from my knees, and have been interceding for you at the throne of grace. The ſame principle that led me to pray for, excites me alſo to write a few lines to your Ladyſhip. Ere now your late bodily indiſpoſition, I hope is entirely removed, and you are up and miniſtring to JESUS CHRIST. I doubt not but your Ladyſhip will be helped to ſing with a dear ſaint now with GOD,

——— *O happy rod,*
That brought me nearer to my GOD.

The end of all affliction, outward and inward, is to make us more and more partakers of a divine nature. The father of mercies hath dealt bountifully with your Ladyſhip; he hath bleſſed you in the decline of life. O that your latter end may greatly increaſe! May you be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD! This, Madam, is the privilege of a real chriſtian, always growing, and making perpetual advances in the divine life. The path of the juſt ſhines more and more unto the perfect day. The way, thanks be to GOD, your Ladyſhip knows. We muſt always come by faith, and be continually drawing out of the Redeemer's inexhauſtible fulneſs. If we are enabled to lean on him, we ſhall go comfortably on in a wilderneſs. That is the beſt name this world deſerves. Cieled houſes, gaudy attire, and rich furniture, do not make it appear leſs ſo to a mind truly enlightened to ſee the beauties that are in JESUS of *Nazareth*. Theſe are things, which a watchful, well-informed chriſtian will always look on with a jealous eye, leſt they ſhould divert him from looking unto JESUS the author and finiſher of his faith. But I need not write

write thus to your Ladyſhip, the native language of whoſe heart I truſt is, "GOD forbid that I ſhould glory ſave in the croſs of CHRIST, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." The preaching of the croſs hath been much bleſſed here. Multitudes daily attend, and many are much affected. It would pleaſe your Ladyſhip to ſee the alteration that has been made in a week's time. But what cannot GOD do? All things are poſſible to him. I hope your Ladyſhip will not forget a poor pilgrim in your prayers. Neither you nor your honoured ſiſter are forgotten by him. I ſend moſt dutiful reſpects and grateful acknowledgments to her Ladyſhip and Lady *G*—— *H*——, and ſhall only now add, that I am, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient
humble ſervant, for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLIII.

To Lady F—— S——.

Portſmouth, May 12, 1749.

Honoured Madam,

AS I am uncertain whether good Lady *H*—— be in town, I make bold to incloſe a line to your Ladyſhip in a letter I have juſt written to the elect Counteſs *D*——. Gratitude conſtrains me to take the freedom, and the conviction I have that your Ladyſhip's face is ſet *Zion*-wards, makes me think it will not be altogether unacceptable. With great pleaſure I often reflect on that good work, which I truſt the ever-bleſſed GOD has begun in your ſoul. My heart's deſire and continual prayer unto him is, that your Ladyſhip, having put your hand to the plough, may be kept from looking back! Satan will not be wanting to exert his utmoſt efforts to divert you from the croſs. He knows of what influence your Ladyſhip's example muſt neceſſarily be, and therefore will always be ſtriving to perſuade your Ladyſhip at leaſt to compound matters, and to attempt to reconcile two irreconcilable differences, CHRIST and the world. But your Ladyſhip is too well grounded to hearken to his deluſive inſinuations, and too noble to refuſe to give your whole heart to Him who has bought it

with no leſs price than that of his own moſt precious blood. —What a price is now put into your Ladyſhip's hands! What a glorious opportunity is now afforded you, to ſhew even before kings, that we are made kings indeed, and prieſts unto GOD, and that it is our privilege as chriſtians to reign over ſin, death, hell, the world, and ourſelves, even whilſt here on earth. Methinks I ſee angels gazing to ſee how your Ladyſhip acts your part. O that the angel of the everlaſting covenant may always accompany you, and by the power of his eternal and all-conquering ſpirit, enable your Ladyſhip to fight the good fight of faith, and run with patience the glorious race that is ſet before you! He is never wanting to thoſe that put their truſt in him. Aſk and you ſhall receive, ſeek and you ſhall find, be always knocking, and a door of mercy ſhall be always opened unto you. O the happineſs of a life wholly devoted to, and ſpent in communion and fellowſhip with the ever-bleſſed GOD! It is indeed heaven begun on earth. May your Ladyſhip taſte of it more and more every day and every hour! Bleſſed be GOD, I truſt ſome in theſe parts, who a few days ago had never heard of, now begin to look after this kingdom of GOD. A more viſible alteration I have not ſeen made in a people for ſome time. At firſt ſome of the baſer ſort made a noiſe, but ever ſince, thouſands have attended in the greateſt order, numbers have been and are affected, and through their importunity I have been prevailed on to ſtay longer than I deſigned. O to be inſtrumental to bring only one ſoul to JESUS CHRIST! But whither am I running? Honoured Madam, your goodneſs will excuſe this freedom. I believe your Ladyſhip will be glad to hear ſuch tidings. It is the beſt way I can think of to expreſs my gratitude for the many unmerited favours your Ladyſhip hath been pleaſed to confer on, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCLIV.

To the Countess of H———.

Portsmouth, May 13, 1749.

Honoured Madam,

WITH some degree of impatience have I been waiting to hear from your Ladyship, being very solicitous for your Ladyship's welfare. This morning your Ladyship's unexpected letter surprized me. I only expected to have a line from Mrs. *C*———. Your Ladyship's writing under such weakness, put me in mind of Mr. *C*——, who, when his friends advised him not to write on account of his illness, made this reply, "What! would you have my master come and find me idle?" Perhaps our LORD is fitting your Ladyship for some new work. *Luther* observed, that "he was never employed in any new thing, but he was beset with some temptations, or visited with a fit of sickness." I only wish I could bear it for your Ladyship; but then your crown would not be so bright, nor the inward purity of your heart so great. The more trials when sanctified, the more conformed we shall be to the ever-loving ever-lovely JESUS. O that the LORD of all Lords may water you every moment, and cause you to flourish like the burning bush unconsumed in fire! I have more good news to send your Ladyship from *Portsmouth*. Ever since my last, the prospect of doing good has increased. Thousands have attended, and even when it rained, when one could reasonably expect but very few, some thousands came to hear the word. I have contracted a cold by preaching in the rain; but what is that, if any soul can but get good!

My life, my blood, I here present,
If in thy cause they may be spent;
Fulfil thy sov'reign counsel, LORD;
Thy will be done, thy name ador'd.

On next *Monday* evening I intend, GOD willing, to set out for *Salisbury*, and from thence shall write to your Ladyship again. Yesterday I wrote to the Countess and Lady *F*——, but did not send the letters to your Ladyship, not knowing

but

but you might have set out for *Bristol*. My brother would be highly delighted to have your Ladyship under his roof. That GOD may restore you to perfect health, and make you a blessing to thousands, is and shall be the constant prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged, dutiful, sympathizing,
though unworthy humble servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLV.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *Bristol, May* 22, 1749.

SINCE I wrote last to your Ladyship, several things have concurred to prove that Providence directed my way hither. I have preached three times, and each time our LORD caused the word to leave a blessing behind it. Yesterday, congregations were very large in the fields. This evening I am to preach again, and to-morrow, GOD willing, I set out for *Wales*.—Though my brother is sorry for the occasion, yet he rejoices very much that he is to be honoured with your Ladyship's company. I believe you will find his house very commodious, and I am persuaded your Ladyship's coming will prove a blessing to him. Surely our LORD is only purging you that you may bring forth more fruit. I am always thinking of, and praying for your Ladyship's perfect recovery. I am now reduced to great weakness myself, but the joy of the LORD is my strength, and through his help I shall leap over every wall. Gladly would I help to bear all your Ladyship's burdens, and thereby evidence how much I am, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's dutiful, sympathizing,
obliged, though most unworthy servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLVI.

To Lady H———.

Abergavenny, May 27, 1749.

Honoured Madam,

THOUGH I ſuppoſe your Ladyſhip will not be at *Briſtol* ſo ſoon as this reaches it, yet as this is the moſt leiſure time I am likely to have theſe three weeks, I cannot help writing a few lines to wait for your Ladyſhip at my brother's houſe. I think (as I am perſuaded he does alſo) that he is highly honoured in having your Ladyſhip under his roof, and I earneſtly pray the LORD of all Lords to bleſs the waters, for the recovery of your health. Though I want to die myſelf, yet methinks I would have others live, eſpecially ſuch as, like your Ladyſhip, are placed upon a pinnacle, and in a particular manner ſet up as lights in the world. For two days paſt I have been at my wife's houſe for the ſake of a little retirement. It has been ſweet, yea very ſweet, ſo ſweet that I ſhould be glad never to be heard of again. But this muſt not be. A neceſſity is laid upon me, and woe is me if I do not preach the goſpel of CHRIST. GOD willing, I therefore purpoſe to-morrow to begin a three weeks circuit, and to ſee what the LORD will be pleaſed to do by me. The country is alarmed, and I hear very numerous congregations are expected. Your Ladyſhip ſhall hear from time to time. May the ever bleſſed GOD fill you with all his fulneſs, and after you have done and ſuffered what he hath appointed for you here, tranſlate you to partake of an exceeding and eternal weight of glory in his kingdom hereafter. So prays, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obedient,
obliged humble ſervant, &c.
G. W.

LETTER DCCLVII.

Abergavenny, May 27, 1749.

My very dear Brother,

INCLOSED you have a letter for our good Lady *H*——, whom I ſuppoſe you will have the honour of receiving in a few

a few days under your roof. Both before, and ever since I left *Briſtol*, I have been frequently thinking of the unſpeakable mercies, that the infinitely great and glorious GOD is pleaſed to pour down upon us.—Surely the language of both our hearts ought to be, "What ſhall we render unto the LORD?" For my part, I am loſt in wonder, and want a thouſand lives to ſpend in the Redeemer's ſervice. O let not my dear brother be angry, if I intreat him at length to leave off killing, and begin to redeem time. A concern for your eternal welfare ſo affects me, that it often brings bodily ſickneſs upon me, and drives me to a throne of grace, to wreſtle in your behalf. Even now, whilſt I am writing, my ſoul is agonizing in prayer for you, hoping I ſhall ſee that day, when you will have poured out on you a ſpirit of grace and of ſupplication, and look to him whom we have pierced, and be made to mourn as one mourneth for a firſt-born. Till this be done, all reſolutions, all ſchemes for amendment, will be only like ſpiders webs. Nature is a mere Proteus, and till renewed by the ſpirit of GOD, though it may ſhift its ſcene, will be only nature ſtill. Apply then, my deareſt Brother, to the fountain of light and life, from whence every good and perfect gift cometh. A worthy woman in all probability is going to throw herſelf under GOD, into your hands. A conſiderable addition will be then made to your preſent talents, and conſequently a greater ſhare of care and circumſpection neceſſary to improve all for the glory of Him, who hath been always preventing and following you with his bleſſings. Should you prove any otherwiſe than a pious huſband, it will be one of the greateſt afflictions I ever met with in my life. At preſent you can only hurt yourſelf, which is hurt enough; but then (forgive me, my dear Brother,) I am jealous over you with a godly jealouſy. My fears ſhall be turned into prayers, and I will follow this letter with ſtrong crying unto GOD in your behalf. My retirement here theſe two days hath been very ſweet; but to-morrow I begin a three weeks circuit. Next ſabbath I am to be at *Carmarthen*, the *Friday* following at *Haverford-weſt*. For the preſent, adieu. That you may take CHRIST to be your All in All, and that the remainder of your life may be one continued ſacrifice of love to him, who hath

ſhed his precious blood for you, is the hearty prayer of, my dear Brother,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLVIII.

To Mr. D——.

Abergavenny, May 27, 1749.

My very dear Friend,

YOUR kind letter I received at *Briſtol*, but have not had time to anſwer it till now. You know what a moving life I lead. It is for one, who laid down his life for me. I want my laſt remove to come. Bleſſed be GOD for your recovery from your late indiſpoſition. Many of GOD's people will have reaſon to be thankful on your behalf. I truſt I am; and earneſtly pray the LORD of all Lords, that as your day is, ſo your ſtrength may be. I thank you for minding the poor widows, and the other poor tabernacle petitioners. What an honour is put upon you! To be CHRIST's almoner is no mean office. You ſhall be rewarded ere long before men and angels. Mrs. *D*—— ſhall ſhare with you; and as you have been helpers of each others faith, ſo ſhall you be partakers of the ſame glory. May your latter end greatly increaſe, and may you be enabled to bring forth fruit even to a good old age! I hope good has been done at *Briſtol*. We had three good ſeaſons there. To-morrow I ſet out on a three weeks circuit through *Wales*. I have been here theſe two days for a little retirement: it has been very ſweet. On *Thurſday* I ſaw Mr. *E*—— *I*——, the diſſenting miniſter I before ſpoke of, and found him very meanly apparelled. He is a moſt worthy man, and from his zeal for GOD ſome time ago, he ſold fifteen pounds worth of his books to finiſh a ſmall Meeting-houſe in which he preaches. He has but three pounds per annum from the fund, and about as much from his people. He lives very low, but enjoys much of GOD, and hath as great underſtanding in the figurative parts of ſcripture as any one I know of in the world. He is a *Zachary*, and his wife an *Elizabeth*. Four or five guineas might be beſtowed on them. What a ſcene will open at the great day!

How many *rich Prieſts* will ſtand confounded, whilſt the poor deſpiſed *faithful Miniſters* of CHRIST ſhall enter, after all their tribulation, into the joy of their LORD. I tremble for the one, I rejoice in the foreſight of the happineſs of the other. May my latter end and future ſtate (however I may be diſpoſed of in the mean while) be like theirs! I know you will ſay, *Amen*. But what am I doing? I am robbing the poor of your time. Away to your work in the ſtrength of GOD, and whilſt you are feeding others, may the LORD JESUS feaſt your ſoul! My heartieſt reſpects attend Mrs. *D*——. She always ſhares in the petitions put up for you by, my very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLIX.

To Mr. I—— C——.

Dear Jemmy, *Carmarthen, June* 5, 1749.

AS I have a peculiar love for you and your wife, I need not inform you that your letter, which gave me an account of her great illneſs, affected me much. I have not failed to remember her at the throne of grace, and I truſt this will find her either relieved from her pain, or reſigned to his will who orders all things well. Parting is hard to thoſe who, like you two, have walked in love. But we can do all things through JESUS CHRIST ſtrengthening us. She, when dead, will live for ever, and GOD will be to you better than ſeven wives. Pray ſalute the dear woman for me in the tendereſt manner. O that ſhe may be ſtrong in the LORD, and in the power of his might, and be enabled to ſay, "the cup which my father hath given me, ſhall I not drink it?" I ſympathize with poor Mrs. *N*—— as well as you. GOD comfort and ſupport you all. We muſt all be tried. I am ſtill in ſuſpenſe about my wife: but, what is beſt, (Glory be to GOD!) the goſpel runs and is glorified! I have been enabled to preach fourteen times within theſe eight days, and the word has every where fallen with weight and power. Yeſterday was a great day here indeed. This morning I am going toward *Haverford-weſt*, and am to be at *Abergavenny* to-morrow fortnight.

I know you will continually pray for me. You know under what character, even as the chief of ſinners, but

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCLX.

To Lady H——.

Haverford-weſt, June 8, 1749.

Honoured Madam,

SINCE my coming into *Wales*, and leaving *Carmarthen*, the infinitely great and infinitely condeſcending Redeemer has been pleaſed to ride on in the chariot of the everlaſting goſpel. Congregations grow larger and larger, and all the towns here about are quite open for the word of GOD. Yeſterday I preached very near *Pembroke*, to-day and next LORD's day I am to preach here, and to-morrow at *St. David's*. Not a dog ſtirs a tongue. The mayor and gentlemen at *Pembroke* were very civil, and the juſtices here are very fond of having me in *Haverford-weſt*. I wiſh I had more time in theſe parts. The fields are indeed white, ready unto harveſt, and the young men bred up at *Carmarthen* Academy were much taken. The congregations conſiſt of many thouſands, and their behaviour is very affecting. Indeed we have bleſſed ſeaſons. O free grace! Here is a dear young man, juſt ripe for orders. He has good parts, and hath made ſome proficiency in the languages, is ſolid, and of ſome influence in this town. He can get teſtimonials, and if ordained I believe would be eminently uſeful in the church. I wiſh a way could be found out for his admiſſion: but I fear it is impracticable. However, I thought it my duty juſt to hint it to your Ladyſhip. May the great Shepherd and Biſhop of ſouls find out means for ſending him, and many more like-minded, into his vineyard! But how is your Ladyſhip's health? I begin to be quite uneaſy, becauſe I have received no letter from my brother. I deſpair of hearing now till *Tueſday* ſevennight, when I hope to be at *Abergavenny* again. In the mean while, my prayers are always going to the throne of grace in behalf of your Ladyſhip, and every branch of your noble family. That they

may

may take root downwards, and bear fruit upwards, is the ardent desire of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful,
though unworthy servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXI.

To Dr. S———.

Dear Sir, *Landovery, June* 14, 1749.

A Few days ago, I received a letter from Mr. *C*——, in which yours to him dated *May* 20th was inclosed. It gave me some concern, and would have given me more had not the same letter informed me that good Lady *H*——*n* had written to you herself. Alas, my dear friend, what needless trouble do you give yourself, and into what difficulties does your fear of man, your too great attachment to the world, and an over-weening fondness for your pretty character, every day bring you! Is it not time to drop our correspondence, when, on so slight an information, you could so much as suspect that I had betrayed that confidence you reposed in me, or believe that I read a letter wherein you declared yourself a *Methodist*, when I had never such letter from you. The only passage, as far as I can remember, that was read (and that too at my Lady's request, if I mistake not) was that noble one wherein you said, "Let the world take my character, and tear it to pieces, &c." Are you ashamed, my dear friend, of the resolution? Or think you to put that in practice, and shun being called a *Methodist?* You might as well attempt to reach heaven with your hand; for, blessed be GOD, such an honour has he put upon the Methodists, that whoever renounces the world and takes up CHRIST's cross, and believes and lives the doctrines of Grace, must be stiled a Methodist whether he will or not. Formerly it was "You are a Puritan," now it is, "You are a Methodist." And why does my dear Mr. *S*—— take such pains to declare, he never will join the Methodists? Who ever asked him? Or what service could you do their cause by joining, unless your heart was more enstranged from the world than at present it is? Would to GOD you was more like-minded with Mr. *H*——! He seems to have set down, and counted the cost. He seems to have begun at the right end, and to be fully convinced that there is no reconciling CHRIST

and the world, GOD and *Mammon*. My dear Mr. *S*——, ſuffer me to be free with you. Our LORD I truſt has begun a good work in your ſoul: but indeed you have many leſſons yet to learn. The great phyſician muſt give many a bitter portion, in order to purge out the opinion you have of your own importance, and the too great deſire you have to keep in with the world. Reproach you cannot ſhun, if you appear but a little for CHRIST; and you will not have more, perhaps not ſo much, if you ſhew quite out. Perhaps you may ſay, I have done this already; do not then be aſhamed of it, but go on, grow in grace, preſs forwards, and then I care not what declaration you make of your not intending to be a *Methodiſt*. Be a conſiſtent chriſtian, live above the world, call not the fear of man chriſtian prudence, and then underneath you ſhall be GOD's everlaſting arms. Thanks be to his great name, they have upholden me for ſome weeks laſt paſt. I have now been a circuit of ſeveral hundred miles. At *Portſmouth* and *Goſport* the word ran and was glorified. In *South Wales* every where the fields have been white ready unto harveſt. Not a dog ſtirs his tongue. Laſt *Sunday* I believe I preached to near twenty thouſand ſouls. Grace! grace! In about ten days I hope to be at *Briſtol*. Soon after I propoſe to go to *London*, and from thence to *Yorkſhire* and *Scotland*.— Follow me with your prayers, and in return you ſhall be remembered by, very dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXII.

To the Reverend Mr. H——.

Landovery, June 14, 1749.

Reverend and dear Sir,

YOURS, dated *May* 24th, gave me both pleaſure and pain. I was pleaſed to read the ſweet obſervations made up and down in it, but pained to find that you have been much indiſpoſed. But what ſays our LORD? "Thoſe that abide in him, he will purge;" but it is only in order that they may bring forth more fruit. Perhaps our LORD is about to employ you in ſome freſh work. I wiſh you may be enabled to draw your pen on the topic you mentioned; it may be of great ſervice to the church of CHRIST. Your remark upon my

my pamphlet is juſt. I wrote ſhort, becauſe I know long compoſitions generally weary the reader. Perhaps hereafter I may write more; but at preſent I find I have enough to do, to travel, and preach, and anſwer my correſpondents. I publiſhed my confeſſion of ſome miſtakes and imprudencies, to ſatisfy my own conſcience, and ſtop the mouths of adverſaries, and ſtrengthen the hands of real diſintereſted hearty friends: but where are ſuch friends to be found? That phantom called *Contempt* keeps them in fetters, and makes them afraid to appear in defence of a cauſe, which, (notwithſtanding the many imprudencies that have attended it) is undoubtedly the cauſe of GOD. If we think to be free from theſe, in this imperfect ſtate of things, and to ſee either a perfect ſaint or a perfect church till we come to heaven, we ſhall find ourſelves much miſtaken. Daily experience, and more mature conſideration, may leſſen our blunders and imperfections; but death alone will put a final ſtop to their mixing in all we do. Thanks be to GOD that we have a CHRIST, who amidſt all does love, and can uphold us. If our infirmities lead us to his croſs, and our ſufferings only make us more willing to be conformed to him in his death, we are gainers by all our loſſes, and riſe by all our falls. Bleſſed be the LORD, that you, dear Sir, have had grace given you to ſit down and count the coſt. I wiſh the beloved phyſician was more reconciled to the croſs. I am perſuaded, let him ſay what he pleaſes, that a too great attachment to the world makes him reaſon as he does in many things. Well,—he is in good hands. He muſt either come or be dragged to the croſs. That pretty character of his muſt be crucified and ſlain: and as well as others, he muſt be content (as Mr. *Gurnall* expreſſes it) "to go to heaven in a fool's coat." O my dear Sir, what pains is the LORD JESUS obliged to take with us, before we can be reconciled to ſuffer ſhame for his great name's ſake!

Briſtol, June 24.

Thus far I wrote, but was obliged to ſtop, being called out to preach. Yeſterday GOD brought me here, after having carried me a circuit of about eight hundred miles, and enabled me to preach, I ſuppoſe to upwards of a hundred thouſand ſouls. I have been in eight *Welch* counties, and I think we have not had one dry meeting. The work in *Wales* is much

much upon the advance, and likely to increaſe daily. Had my dear Mr. *H*—— been there to have ſeen the ſimplicity of ſo many dear ſouls, I am perſuaded he would have ſaid, "*Sit anima mea cum Methodiſtis!*" But every one to his poſt. During this excurſion I have been kept happy inwardly, and well in body till the latter end of laſt week, when the LORD was pleaſed to lay his hand upon me, ſo that I was almoſt brought to the grave. But he that wounds, heals alſo. Thanks be to his holy name for ever and ever! On *Monday* or *Tueſday* next, GOD willing, I ſet out for *London*. Good Lady *H*—— is here, and goes on in her uſual way, doing good. She is recovered from her indiſpoſition. I hope this will find you recovered alſo. That the LORD of all Lords may give you a thriving ſoul in a healthy body, is the hearty prayer of, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXIII.

To the Reverend Mr. P——. Pemberton

London, July 10, 1749.

Reverend and dear Sir,

YOUR kind letter came ſafe to hand, and it was the more welcome, becauſe it gave me a proof of your being recovered from your late threatening indiſpoſition. Bleſſed be GOD, it found me as well as can be expected in my body, and I truſt ſteady in promoting the welfare of precious and immortal ſouls. I have lately ſeen great things in *Wales*, and the ſeed ſown among the Rich, has in ſome ſprung up and brought forth fruit; but what you have heard from *Scotland* is all a miſtake. I heartily wiſh all was true. The time I hope will come, when princes ſhall adorn the Redeemer's train. Is there no proſpect of your coming over? Your Mr. *T*—— might do much for *New-Jerſey* college; but I have told you my mind in a former letter. May GOD direct for the beſt! I am looking up, to know what the great Head of the church would have me to do. I have a great mind to return to my beloved *America* this fall, but am not yet determined. My wife arrived about a fortnight ago, and joins in ſending cordial

cordial salutations to all. O that we may all increase with all the increase of GOD! Your sentiments concerning Mr. *H*——'s book, are very just. It has gone through six editions. The author of it is my old friend; a most heavenly-minded creature, one of the first of the Methodists, who is contented with a small cure, and gives all that he has to the poor. He is very weak, and daily waits for his dissolution. A neighbouring clergyman near him preaches the gospel; and a physician, formerly a noted Deist, has lately espoused the interest of JESUS of *Nazareth*. We correspond with, though we cannot see one another. We shall ere long meet in heaven:

There pain, and sin, and sorrow cease,
And all is calm, and joy, and peace.

I recommend myself most earnestly to your prayers, and am, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXIV.

To Mr. J— D——.

My dear Friend, *London, July* 12, 1749.

I Am obliged to you for your kind letters; for the trouble you have been at about the money, and for all favours. Was I to follow my own inclinations, I would come and thank you in person; but I fear providence will not permit me to embark for *America* this fall. However, I am looking up, and looking about me, and trust our LORD will point out his way before me. I am not at all uneasy at what one of your clergy may have said of me; I am only sorry upon his own account; having known more than once, that GOD delights to plead the cause of the injured. I trust I can say, that with simplicity and godly sincerity I desire to have my conversation in the world; and I hope it is my daily study to keep a conscience void of offence towards GOD and towards man. Whilst this is the case, we need not fear what men or devils can say, or do unto us. They can only speak all manner of evil against us falsely: and that our LORD hath taught us to expect. They can only kill the body; blessed be GOD, the soul

ſoul is out of their reach. I am content to wait till the day of judgment for the clearing up of my character: and after I am dead, I deſire no other epitaph than this, "Here lies *G. W.* what ſort of a man he was, the great day will diſcover." O my dear Sir, what a bleſſed thing is it to have the Redeemer to be our friend. If we can but truly ſay, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," how ſafely may we put our ſouls into his hands, as into the hands of a faithful creator! I hope my dear Mr. *D*—— will not reſt till he can ſay ſo.—The frequent indiſpoſitions of body that you are under, are ſo many loud calls to prepare for another world.—Nothing but the righteouſneſs of CHRIST imputed, and the holineſs of CHRIST imparted to your ſoul, can make you happy in a dying hour. I could enlarge, but muſt away. With this, I have ſent you a dozen of my nine ſermons, to be diſpoſed of as you think beſt. I would ſend more, but have very few left. I would write to Eſquire *R*———, and ſome other gentlemen, but have not the leaſt leiſure. Be pleaſed to remember me to them in the kindeſt manner, as they come in your way, and let them know they are not forgotten by me. Will your dear yokefellow, and all your family, accept of my hearty love? I owe you much. May the LORD JESUS reward you a thouſandfold! He will, he will. Laſt night Capt. *H*—— did me the pleaſure to ſup with me. I took it extremely kind, and ſhould be glad to wait upon *Bermudas* friends every day. My wife hath been arrived about a fortnight, and joins in ſending cordial ſalutations with, my dear Mr. *D*——,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXV.

To Lady Fanny S———.

Honoured Madam, *Briſtol, Aug.* 1, 1749.

THOUGH I had the pleaſure of hearing of your welfare, by your laſt to good Lady *H*———*n*, yet I cannot help taking the freedom of ſending your Ladyſhip a few lines. They come to inform you, that you never are, and, by divine aſſiſtance, never ſhall be forgotten by me at the throne

throne of grace. To that, I truſt, your Ladyſhip finds free acceſs every day, and every hour, through the blood of the Lamb, who was ſlain to take away the ſins of the world. Your Ladyſhip's preſent ſituation, I hope, will be ſanctified to this end. It is in the ſchool of affliction that we muſt learn the way to, and reap benefit from the croſs.—Happy they who come purified out of the furnace, and, like the burning buſh, flouriſh unconſumed in fire. This, Madam, is the privilege of all believers. Trials, which harden others, purify and ſoften them. The love of GOD turns every thing into what is more valuable than gold. It brings light out of darkneſs, and cauſes others blindneſs to increaſe our ſpiritual ſight. O glorious privilege! happy change! How much are you indebted, honoured Madam, to free grace, for making you in any degree a partaker of it! Alas! alas! but few of your Ladyſhip's ſtation in life chooſe to ſtrive to enter into that ſtrait gate which leadeth unto life eternal. The noiſe of coaches, and the continual attention to what they call innocent diverſions, drowns the ſmall ſtill voice of GOD's bleſſed Spirit ſpeaking in their hearts. Since I have been here, many in high life have attended; whether to any valuable purpoſe, the great day will diſcover. Good Lady *H———n* ſtill continues to abound in the work of the LORD, and is brightening her crown every day and hour. She is quite well, and intends ſtaying ſome days longer for the benefit of the waters. Your Ladyſhip is remembered when we are feaſting at the Redeemer's table. In a few days I ſhall move hence; and it may be, that I ſhall go to *Georgia* this fall. May the LORD direct me, and bleſs all thoſe who are the orphan's friends! That your Ladyſhip may be bleſſed with all the bleſſings of the everlaſting goſpel, is the hearty prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient
humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCLXVI.

To Mr. L——.

Dear Mr. L——, *Briſtol, Aug.* 4, 1749.

PROVIDENCE, for wiſe reaſons, prevented my ſeeing you both at *Gloucester*, and at the *Hill*. This comforts me, "What is, is beſt." Since I came here, I have ſeen your letter about the intended charity-ſchool, and wiſh you ſucceſs in the name of the LORD. I communicated it to our elect lady, who immediately contributed five guineas, another two, and Colonel *G*—— one. Theſe I have ſent for you, to Mr. ———, who, I ſuppoſe, will take care to convey them to you. Mrs. *E*——, I believe, intends to do ſomething. Mr. *C*—— likewiſe ſpoke to the Biſhop, who, I think, has promiſed to contribute: ſo that you ſee no time has been loſt. Only, my dear friend, take this caution, "ſit down, and count the coſt, before you begin to build." Do not lay out more than you know you can pay. Go the cheapeſt way to work; and if you cannot build, rather keep a ſtock in hand to pay the ſchoolmaſter, and hire a houſe convenient from year to year, and, if poſſible, find the children in books. You well know what I have ſuffered for running too far into debt for others. I am glad you are likely to ſettle at *S*——. May the LORD JESUS bleſs you and yours more and more! He continues to be kind to me, and will at length, I am perſuaded, (though I paſs through many tribulations) land me ſafe in glory. There we ſhall meet, never to part again. In the mean while, that we may both behave like good ſoldiers of JESUS CHRIST, is the hearty prayer of, my dear friend,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXVII.

To the Biſhop of W——.

My Lord, *Briſtol, Aug.* 7, 1749.

THE occaſion of my troubling your Lordſhip in this manner, is as follows. I have, more than once, been very credibly informed, that your Lordſhip has been pleaſed

to charge me, at the public Wells, with being guilty of *Perjury*. This comes, therefore, to beg the favour of your Lordſhip, only to let me know, (in whatever manner your Lordſhip ſhall judge moſt proper) upon what foundation ſuch a charge is built: and I hereby promiſe, by divine aſſiſtance, that a full, fair, and explicit anſwer ſhall be given to your Lordſhip, by, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's dutiful ſon and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXVIII.

To the Biſhop of W———.

My Lord, *Briſtol, Aug.* 7, 1749.

I Thank your Lordſhip for your kind and cordial letter. I ſhall take care to do your Lordſhip juſtice, by ſhewing it to ſuch perſons as I think have been more immediately concerned. This, I imagine, will be as much ſatisfaction as your Lordſhip will deſire. I ſuppoſe the miſtake has lain here: your Lordſhip might have inſinuated, that by my preſent way of acting, I had broken the ſolemn engagement I had entered into at my ordination: and that might have been interpreted to imply a charge of *Perjury*. The relation in which I ſtand to the Right Honourable the Counteſs of *H*———, made me deſirous to clear myſelf from ſuch an imputation; and at the ſame time to give your Lordſhip an opportunity of vindicating yourſelf in the manner you have done. Was I not afraid of intruding too much upon your Lordſhip's time, and of ſhewing the leaſt inclination to controverſy, I would endeavour, in the fear of GOD, to anſwer the other part of your Lordſhip's letter; and, as far as lies in me, give your Lordſhip a ſatisfactory account of whatever may ſeem irregular and exceptionable in my preſent conduct. This I would be glad to do, not only before your Lordſhip, but all the Right Reverend the Biſhops; for I highly honour them on account of the ſacred character they ſuſtain, and would make it my daily endeavour to obey all their godly admonitions. This, I preſume, my Lord, is the utmoſt extent of the promiſe I made at my ordination. If I err or deviate from this, in any reſpect, it is through ignorance and want of better information, and not (as far as I

know

know my own heart) out of obſtinacy or contempt of lawful authority. But I forget myſelf. I beg your Lordſhip's pardon for taking up ſo much of your time; I thank your Lordſhip for your prayers in my behalf; and beg leave to offer mine in return for your Lordſhip's preſent and eternal welfare, who am, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's dutiful ſon, and obliged humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXIX.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *Plymouth, Aug.* 15, 1749.

I Hope this will find your Ladyſhip recovered from the fatigue of your journey, and ſitting under the Redeemer's ſhadow with unſpeakable delight at *Aſhby-Place*. My prayers have conſtantly followed you, ever ſince I left your Ladyſhip at *Briſtol*; and the LORD of all lords has dealt bountifully with me in my way *Weſtward*. At *Wellington*, as I was riding through the town, a good woman ſtopped me, and entreated me to give the people a ſermon. I complied, and preached to a great company; and the next day to a much larger at the ſame place. I have alſo preached once at *Exeter*, twice at *Kingſbridge*, and once here at *Plymouth*, where, by the providence of an infinitely condeſcending GOD, I came yeſterday in the afternoon. Several, I find, were awakened when I was here laſt; and the fields are every where white, ready unto harveſt. My late pamphlet has been greatly bleſt. My Lord of *Exeter* was aſked, Whether he had ſeen it? He anſwered, "Yes," and ſaid, "I wrote like an honeſt man, had recanted ſeveral things, but he goes on in the ſame way yet." Being aſked, Whether he did not intend publiſhing his ſecond part? he replied, "You may expect a ſecond." GOD be praiſed! I wiſh it may come out before I embark. I find he did not proceed to ſentence Mr. *T*——; he only threatened to pull off his gown. Mr. *T*—— immediately pulled it off himſelf, and ſaid, "He could preach the goſpel without a gown," and went out. Upon which the Biſhop ſent after him, and ſoothed him. In a few days I hope to ſee Mr. *T*——, and then your Lady-

Ladyſhip ſhall have further particulars. Bleſſed be GOD, all things turn out for the furtherance of the goſpel. "Out of the eater comes forth meat, and out of the ſtrong comes forth ſweetneſs." In about a fortnight I hope to reach *London*, and in the mean time ſhall take care to ſend your Ladyſhip hiſtorical letters. I count it my higheſt honour and privilege to wait upon your Ladyſhip; but I fear ſhall never have it in my power to expreſs my gratitude as I ought, for thoſe unmerited favours your Ladyſhip hath been pleaſed to confer on, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged, though unworthy ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXX.

To Mr. S———.

Dear Sir, *Plymouth, Aug.* 18, 1749.

I Thank you for your kind letter, which I have not had an opportunity of anſwering until now. I rejoice that ſo much goſpel ſeed has been ſown in *Yorkſhire*, and that ſo much hath ſprung up and brought forth fruit. No wonder that the enemy has been buſy to ſow tares of various kinds amongſt it. This always was, and, in all probability, will always be the caſe, till time ſhall be no more. Happy they! who are enabled to diſtinguiſh truth from error, and who, amongſt the different ſentiments of CHRIST's diſciples, maintain a catholic love for all. Your letter beſpeaks you to be thus minded. This is what I would aim at, becauſe it is the glory of a chriſtian, and a temper of mind which ſweetly prepares us for the communion of ſaints in heaven. Be pleaſed, therefore, to give my love to all that love the LORD JESUS in ſincerity. If any of my poor writings have been bleſſed to any, let CHRIST have the glory, and me your prayers. I want them much. I am the chief of ſinners, leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints; but, I truſt, am willing to ſpend and be ſpent for ſouls. The beginning of next month, I have thoughts of being your way. If it is beſt, providence will direct my courſe thither. In the mean while, and at all other ſeaſons, whether I come or not,

I recommend myſelf to your prayers, as being, though unknown, yet, for JESUS CHRIST's ſake,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXI.

To Captain W———.

My very dear Brother, *Plymouth, Aug.* 19, 1749.

I DO not love to be long out of *Briſtol* without writing to you. I want to know how it is with you after the loſs of my noble patroneſs, and whether dear Mr. *H*—— goes on. I have been preaching as uſual in the *Weſt*, and for ſome days paſt have been comforted and refreſhed in a peculiar manner. Laſt night I heard that the Biſhop had publiſhed a ſecond pamphlet, of half-a-crown price, with a preface to me. Have you ſeen it, or do you think it worth anſwering? He told a clergyman ſome time ago, that he might expect a ſecond part. He ſaid, "My anſwer was honeſt; that I had recanted many things, but that I went on in my uſual way ſtill." GOD forbid I ſhould do otherwiſe. I am informed, that upon threatening to pull Mr. *T*——'s gown off, he threw it off himſelf, and ſaid, "He could preach the goſpel without a gown," and ſo withdrew. Upon which the Biſhop ſent for him in, and ſoothed him. Particulars I expect to hear on *Tueſday* at *Bidiford*, where I hope to ſee Mr. *T*——; and to-morrow ſe'nnight, GOD willing, I intend to preach at *Exeter*, in my way to *London*. I hope you find retirement bleſſed to you. Whether retired, or in public life, that you may be entirely devoted to the moſt adorable Redeemer, is the hearty prayer of, my very dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

POSTSCRIPT to Lady *H*———*n.*

Honoured Madam,

SINCE I wrote the above, GOD has given me a glorious ſeaſon at the dock, where I preached to a great multitude. This morning the King of kings ſhewed himſelf in the gallery

of

of his ordinances indeed; and this evening I preached to many thousands in *Plymouth* fields. It was a solemn meeting. Since that, a youth, laden with a sense of sin, came crying, "What shall I do to be saved?" May JESUS give him rest! May the same JESUS still fill your Ladyship with all his fulness! To-morrow, GOD willing, I set out for *Biddiford*. I have now a clergyman with me, who is made a rural Dean, and who, I believe, preaches CHRIST in sincerity.

LETTER DCCLXXII.

To Lady H———n.

Biddiford, Aug. 24, 1749.

SINCE I had the honour of writing to your Ladyship, I have seen the Bishop's second pamphlet, in which he hath served the Methodists, as the bishop of *Constance* served *John Huss*, when they ordered some painted devils to be put round his head, before they burned him. His preface to me is most virulent. Every thing I wrote in my answer, is turned into the vilest ridicule, and nothing will satisfy, but giving up the glorious work of the ever-blessed GOD, as entirely cheat and imposture. I cannot see that it calls for any further answer from me. Mr. *Wesley*, I think, had best attack him now, as he is largely concerned in this second part. I hope to be in *London* some time next week. I think of leaving this place to-morrow, and to preach at *Exeter* next Lord's-day. The glorious *Emmanuel* has given me several spiritual children in this place, who do indeed adorn the gospel of GOD their Saviour. Here is a little flock, to whom, I believe, it will be our heavenly Father's good pleasure to give an eternal kingdom. I have preached once publicly to a large auditory, and this evening am to preach again. I am ashamed I do no more for Him, who hath done and suffered so much for me. O what shall I render unto the LORD of all lords, whose mercy endureth for ever! A thought of his infinite patience and long-suffering strikes me dumb. His goodness, in bringing me into the acquaintance of your Ladyship, quite amazes me; and the many peculiar providences that have attended me this last year, encourage me to believe that goodness and mercy shall follow

me all the days of my life, and that I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. There, shall I see your Ladyship; and will there thank you before men and angels for all you have done for unworthy me, and that blessed cause in which I am embarked. That your Ladyship in the mean while may be watered every moment by the dew of the Redeemer's heavenly blessing, is and shall be the continued prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged, though unworthy servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXIII.

To the Countess of D———.

Honoured Madam, *Biddiford, Aug.* 24, 1749.

AS I am always praying for, so I cannot help sometimes writing to your Ladyship. I think I can say, "The love of CHRIST constrains me." Thanks be to GOD that your Ladyship knows what these words mean. I hope you find it every day constraining you more and more to every good word and work. My greatest pain is, to find that I can do no more for Him, who has done and suffered so much for me. Blessed be his name, that the fields are yet every where white, ready unto harvest. Since I have been in the *West*, I have been preaching as usual, and a divine influence hath every where attended the word. This, I think, is the best way to answer those that oppose themselves. If GOD be for us, who can be against us? I suppose your Ladyship hath seen the Bishop's second pamphlet. Surely it is an original. May the LORD JESUS open his eyes, and change his heart! Well might the glorious *Emmanuel* break out into this blessed exclamation, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in thy sight." Honoured Madam, how much are you indebted to divine grace, that hath singled you out from among the Mighty and Noble, and placed your Ladyship to the number of those happy few to whom it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of GOD! I trust your honoured

honoured ſiſter will ere long bear you company, and travel with you in that narrow road which leads to eternal life. When I remember you, I always think of her, and beg my moſt dutiful reſpects may find acceptance with her Ladyſhip. Some time next week I hope to be in town for a few days, and then ſhall do myſelf the honour of calling upon your Ladyſhip. In the mean while I recommend you to the tender mercies of the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS, and beg an intereſt in your Ladyſhip's prayers, in behalf of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obedient, obliged humble ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXIV.

To Lady Fanny S——.

Honoured Madam, *Exeter, Aug.* 26, 1749.

THOUGH I took the freedom of writing to your Ladyſhip before I left *Briſtol*, and though I hope to be in town by next *Thurſday* evening, yet gratitude and reſpect even compel me to trouble your Ladyſhip with another letter from this place. Here I came laſt night, after having preached the everlaſting goſpel to many thouſands in the *Weſt*. Sometimes I have been weak in body; but He, whoſe I am, and whom I endeavour to ſerve in the goſpel of his dear Son, hath carried me through, and greatly refreſhed and comforted my ſoul. Alas! to what a heaven are they ſtrangers, who deny the influence of the Bleſſed Spirit, and cry down the felt and abiding joys of the Holy Ghoſt, as fancy, enthuſiaſm, and deluſion. Ye poor dry Rationaliſts! I honour your parts in other reſpects, but pity your ignorance in the things of GOD. By this time, I ſuppoſe your Ladyſhip hath ſeen the Biſhop's ſecond performance. I think it is an original, and ſo very ſcurrilous, unchriſtian, and profane, that I cannot think it will be worth my while to anſwer him again. I have ſatisfied my conſcience in publiſhing my laſt pamphlet; and I now commit our cauſe to him who judgeth righteouſly. O honoured Madam, what a happy thing is it to be deſpiſed for the ſake of JESUS! When *John Huſs* was burnt, the Biſhop of *Conſtance* painted devils upon paper, and put them round his head; how ſoon were they exchanged for a crown of glory! Yet a little

while, and He that cometh will come, and will not tarry. Till then, may your Ladyſhip be kept by the mighty power of GOD through faith, and ſtand impregnable as a wall of braſs! May you be kept a ſtranger to names and parties, and by a holy, humble, uniform imitation of the bleſſed JESUS, evidence to the world, that you are indeed experimentally acquainted with the power of his reſurrection. High is your ſtation, great are your difficulties; but he that dwelleth on high is mightier, and hath engaged to make you more than conqueror through his love. To his tender mercy do I now, and likewiſe every day, commend your Ladyſhip; and this, by divine aſſiſtance, ſhall always be the employ of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obedient, obliged,
ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXV.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Sept.* 4. 1749.

BY the providence of a good and gracious GOD, I came to town on *Thurſday* evening, after having had a pleaſant circuit in the *Weſt*. The day after I wrote to your Ladyſhip, I preached twice at *Exeter*, and in the evening I believe I had near ten thouſand hearers. The Biſhop and ſeveral of his clergy ſtood very near me, as I am informed. A good ſeaſon it was. All was quiet, and there was a great ſolemnity in the congregation; but a drunken man threw at me three great ſtones. One of them cut my head deeply, and was like to knock me off the table; but, bleſſed be GOD, I was not diſcompoſed at all. One of the other ſtones ſtruck a poor man quite down. As I came from *Exeter*, I viſited one *John Hayne*, the ſoldier that, under GOD, begun the great awakening in *Flanders*. He is in *Dorcheſter* goal for preaching at *Shaftſbury*, where there has been, and is now a great awakening. Every where the work is upon the ſpread; and ſince I have been here, we have had ſome of the moſt awful, ſolemn, powerful meetings, as I ever ſaw at the Tabernacle. Congregations have been very large, and I have had ſeveral meetings with the preachers. On *Saturday* I had the honour

of

of being almoſt all the day long with Lady *F*——, Lady *H*——, Lady *C*——, and the Counteſs of *D*——. Lady *F*—— and the Counteſs received the bleſſed ſacrament before the others came: and I think they both grow. If I ſtay over *Sunday*, (as perhaps I may) I hope to have another day with them. I am ſorry to inform your Ladyſhip, Mr. *D*—— died laſt *Sunday* about noon. He had been ſick about a fortnight, was in doubts for a while, but two or three days before his death he rejoiced in GOD his Saviour. This morning I had the pleaſure of a viſit from Mr. *P*—— and two *German* miniſters, who have been labouring among the *Jews*, and been made inſtrumental of converting many of them. They ſeemed to be dear ſouls. They have preached at the *German* chapel with great power. That your Ladyſhip may always enjoy a thriving ſoul in a healthy body, is the continual prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXVI.

To Mr. B——.

Oundle, in Northamptonſhire, Sept. 15, 1749.

My very dear Mr. B——,

THOUGH I have not written to you, yet I know of no one in *America*, for whom I have a more real and abiding eſteem. The account of your temporal affairs, which I received from my wife, gave me great concern. I often wiſh it was in my power to aſſiſt you; but as it is not, all I can do is to pray for you, and exhort you to look up to Him, who has engaged, that all things ſhall work together for good to thoſe who love him in ſincerity. This, I am perſuaded, may be ſaid of you; and therefore, dear Sir, be of good courage. Theſe light afflictions are but for a moment, and are intended to work out a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Thanks be to GOD, all the hell we are to have, is on this ſide the grave; there is none for believers beyond it: and even in the midſt of our deepeſt temporal miſery, we may enjoy an antepaſt of heaven. This you know by experience. Thanks be to GOD, for this unſpeakable gift in and through CHRIST JESUS our

LORD. Though faint, my dear friend, yet ſtill purſue. Yonder ſtands the bleſſed JESUS with a crown in his hand, ready to put on the conqueror's head. Let this animate you, for you ſhall certainly reap in due time, if you faint not. I could write much, but am ſurrounded with buſineſs from many quarters. Bleſſed be GOD, my hands are full of work, though I ſtand amazed that the Redeemer does not lay me aſide. But his grace is free. I commend you and your dear yoke-fellow to his never failing mercy, and begging a continued intereſt in your prayers, ſubſcribe myſelf, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXVII.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Binnington, Sept. 17, 1749.

Rev. and very dear Sir,

IF you was uneaſy that my laſt lay by you unanſwered, I am ſure I have been, it may be, much more ſo, ever ſince yours came to hand. Upon reading it, I felt all the ſprings of ſympathy move as it were at once. Glad would I have been of the wings of a dove, to have fled to, and condoled with my ſuffering friend. Perhaps I have heard from what corner your croſs comes. It is a very near one indeed.—A ſaying of Mr. *B*—— hath often comforted me; "I would often have neſtled, but GOD always put a thorn in my neſt." Is not this ſuffered, my dear brother, think you, to prick you out, and to compel you as it were to appear for the LORD JESUS CHRIST? Preaching is my grand *Catholicon* under all domeſtic, as well as other trials. Methinks the voice of providence now is, "Who is on the LORD's ſide?"—I fear Dr. *S*—— has done you hurt, and kept you in ſhackles too, too long. For CHRIST's ſake, my dear Mr. *H*——, exhort him, now he hath taken the gown, to play the man, and let the world ſee that not worldly motives, but GOD's glory and a love for ſouls, have ſent him into the miniſtry. Though when I converſed with him he was exceeding weak, yet as I truſt there is ſincerity at the bottom, I hope he will turn out

out a flamer at last. O when shall this once be! who would lose one moment? Amazing! that the followers of a crucified Redeemer should be afraid of contempt. Surely it must be for want of looking more to, and considering him who endured so much pain, and despised so much shame, but is now sitting at the right hand of the throne of GOD. *O gloriam quantam et qualem!* Rise, *H*———, rise, and see thy JESUS reaching out a crown with this motto, *Vincenti dabo.* Excuse this freedom, I write out of the fulness of my heart, not to draw you over to me or a party, but to excite you to appear openly for GOD. I am glad you intend to write. May I know the plan you intend to go upon? Do you think to say any thing to the Bishop of *Exeter?* Have you seen his second piece? Would you have me reply? Will you point out to me the faults of my first answer? A letter may be directed (if you write immediately) to be left for me at the Reverend Mr. *J*——'s, *Yorkshire.* Thither I am bound now, and if the season of the year should permit, I would stretch to *Scotland.* Alas, how soon is the year gone round since I was there last! and how little have I done for JESUS! A thought of it sometimes breaks my heart. And yet how good is the LORD! In *London* we have had most delightful seasons. The glory of the Redeemer filled the tabernacle. If any doubt whether the cause we are embarked in be the cause of GOD, I say, "Come and see." Are you free that I should call upon you in my return to town? I think to come by way of *Northampton.* You shall hear what is done in *Yorkshire.* I find GOD has blessed my preaching at *Oundle* to some souls. At *Biddiford*, *Plymouth*, *Exeter*, and *Chatham* the word ran and was glorified. But what am I doing? I never wrote to any one so freely, I think, that I was not personally acquainted with, as to you. Pardon me, if I am too free, and impute it to the love that is borne you by, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCLXXVIII.

To Captain W——.

Newcaſtle, Sept. 29, 1749.

My very dear Brother,

SINCE I wrote to you laſt, I have had many proofs that GOD's providence directed my way into *Yorkſhire.* I preached four times at *Abberford*, four times at *Leeds*, and thrice at *Howarth*, where lives one Mr. *G*——. At his church I believe we had above a thouſand communicants, and in the church-yard about ſix thouſand hearers. It was a great day of the ſon of man. At *Leeds* the auditory conſiſted of above ten thouſand. About *Leeds* are Mr. *W*——'s ſocieties. I was invited thither by them and one of their preachers; and Mr. *Charles W*—— coming thither publiſhed me himſelf. I therefore complied, and I believe the goſpel was welcome. I have preached here once, and am to preach again this evening. On *Monday*, GOD willing, I propoſe to return to *Yorkſhire*, and from thence to *London*. Pray ſend me word immediately whether the *Port-Merchant* be gone, becauſe I know not but ſome out of *Wales* may go in her. I forgot to tell you in my laſt, that I had given over the immediate care of all my ſocieties to Mr. *H*——; ſo that now I am a preacher at large indeed. I find every thing is turning round ſtrangely. O for ſimplicity and honeſty to the end! I long to know how it is with you. Am I to have my brother at laſt? Do convictions faſten, and can you at length ſing,

Be gone, vain world; my heart reſign,
For I muſt be no longer thine?

For the preſent, adieu. My love to all. I wiſh you the very beſt of bleſſings, and am, my very dear brother,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCLXXIX.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *Newcaſtle, Oct. 1, 1749.*

I Wrote to your Ladyſhip lately a few lines under great wearineſs of body. I then promiſed to ſend your Ladyſhip many pleaſing particulars. Till now I have not had opportunity; and now what ſhall I ſay to your Ladyſhip? Never did I ſee more of the hand of GOD in any of my journies than in this. At Mr. *G*——'s I believe there were above ſix thouſand hearers. The ſacramental occaſion was moſt awful. At *Leeds* the congregation conſiſted of above 10,000. In the morning at five I was obliged to preach out of doors. I was invited to *Leeds* by one of Mr. *W*——'s preachers, and by all his people. The goſpel was welcome to them. In my way hither I met Mr. *Charles W*——, who returned back with, and introduced me to the pulpit in *Newcaſtle*. As I am a debtor to all, and intend to be at the head of no party, I thought it my duty to comply. I have preached now in their room four times, and this morning I preached to many thouſands in a large cloſe. This evening I am to do the ſame again. The power of GOD has attended his own word, and there ſeems to be a quickening and ſtirring among the ſouls. To-morrow, GOD willing, we ſet out for *Leeds*, and after about a week's ſtay in thoſe parts I intend returning to *London*. As it is ſo late in the year, my *Scotch* friends adviſe me to defer my going thither. Had I known that, I ſhould have embarked for *America* this fall; but I find there were other reaſons for my being prevented croſſing the waters this winter. I deſire to follow the Lamb whitherſoever he is pleaſed to lead me. At *New-haven* there is a great awakening. If any thing offers worthy of notice, your Ladyſhip ſhall be ſure to hear. In the mean while, I continue to put up my uſual prayer, that your Ladyſhip may be filled with all the fulneſs of GOD, and to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged and willing
ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCLXXX.

To Lady Fanny S——.

Honoured Madam, *Newcaſtle, Oct.* 1, 1749.

SOME time laſt week, my wife ſent me the letter your Ladyſhip was pleaſed to favour me with about three weeks ago. Though I was ſorry it did not reach me before I left town, yet I rejoiced to find that it beſpoke your Ladyſhip's attachment to the ever-loving ever-lovely JESUS, and a deſire to partake of the ſacred ſymbols of his moſt bleſſed body and blood. I doubt not but your Ladyſhip, with full purpoſe of heart, will cleave unto him, and in ſpite of men and devils go on in that narrow way which leads to life eternal. GOD's grace will be ſufficient for you. He hath promiſed, and he is faithful who hath promiſed, never to leave nor forſake thoſe that put their truſt in him. He is in the burning buſh, he is in the fiery furnace. He can and will make us more than conquerors over all. With what courage then may your Ladyſhip go on through this howling wilderneſs, whilſt leaning on your beloved Saviour? In him alone is all your ſtrength found. Honoured Madam, look to him, conſider him, and thereby you will be kept from being weary and faint in your mind. I doubt not but you meet with daily croſſes. Perſons that ſtand alone, and in high places, muſt expect ſtorms. But JESUS is able and willing to uphold you. Thanks be to his great name for giving your Ladyſhip ſuch a ſhare of prudence and courage. May the glorious *Emmanuel* increaſe both; and without being attached to any party, may you be preſerved unſpotted from the world, and be a common friend to all!—Since I ſaw your Ladyſhip, I have diſengaged myſelf from the immediate care of the ſocieties, and am now ſtill more at liberty to preach the goſpel of the bleſſed GOD. A ſeries of unforeſeen providences brought me down this way. In *Yorkſhire* many, many thouſands have attended the word, and here at *Newcaſtle* thouſands alſo hear the goſpel gladly. To-morrow I am returning back, and hope to be in town ſome time this month. I fear it is now too late to embark for *America* this winter; but,

thanks

thanks be to GOD, I hear my family is well, and that the LORD hath given them a plentiful crop. If your Ladyſhip lives, I believe you will hear of ſome ſouls being educated at *Georgia* for GOD. Honoured Madam, my heart's deſire and conſtant prayer is, that you may go on from ſtrength to ſtrength, and be continually growing in the knowledge of yourſelf and CHRIST JESUS your LORD. I muſt now add no more, but my repeated thanks for all your Ladyſhip's favours, and my repeated aſſurances of being, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, obedient,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXI.

To Lady F—— S——.

Honoured Madam, Eſtwood in Lancaſhire, Oct. 25, 1749.

SINCE I had the honour of writing to your Ladyſhip from *Newcaſtle*, freſh wonders of grace and mercy have been ſhewn us daily. I have now I think preached about thirty times in *Yorkſhire*, and above ten times in *Cheſhire*, and *Lancaſhire*. Congregations have been very large, and a ſolid, convincing, and comforting influence hath every where attended the word. In one or two places I have had a little rough treatment, but elſewhere all has been quiet, and many I hear are brought under concern about the welfare of their better part. At the importunity of many, I am now returning from *Manchester* (where I preached to many thouſands) to *Leeds*; from thence I purpoſe going to *Sheffield*, and next week I hope to ſee good Lady *H——n* at *Aſhby*, and the week following I hope to be in *London*. Thus do I lead a pilgrim life: GOD give me a pilgrim heart, and enable me to ſpeak of redeeming love to a loſt world, till I can ſpeak no more! Surely this is a work that brings with it its own reward. It brings a heaven into the ſoul, and cauſes it, amidſt all the ſcoffs and tauntings of a benighted, ill-natured, and ridiculing world, to rejoice with joy unſpeakable, even a joy that is full of glory. "To me, (ſays the bleſſed apoſtle) to live is CHRIST." When a perſon can once ſay ſo in reality, then he begins to live indeed. Even death itſelf is then life, becauſe death to ſuch a one is

eternal gain. O how great, how ſtriking, how tranſporting and transforming are the inviſible realities of another world, to a ſoul that is born of GOD! What meer ſhadows and empty nothings are all ſublunary enjoyments, when compared with theſe! Thanks be to GOD, who has given you, honoured Madam, a taſte of theſe infinitely important things. My conſtant prayer for your Ladyſhip is, that you may hold on, and hold out, and with full purpoſe of heart cleave unto that Redeemer who hath loved you, and given himſelf for you. Mrs. *G*—— at *Manchester* goes on well, and is not aſhamed to confeſs him, who I truſt has called her out of darkneſs, and made her partaker of his marvellous light. May the glorious *Emmanuel* add daily to the number of his honourable confeſſors, and give the rich to know, that to be rich in faith and good works is the only way to be rich indeed! All is ours, if we can truly ſay, we are CHRIST's. Honoured Madam, I muſt beg your excuſe for this freedom; but at preſent I have a view of the Redeemer's glory, and therefore know not well how to ſtop when writing of him. Your Ladyſhip will pardon me, and accept theſe poor lines, which ſhall be followed with hearty prayers from, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged and
ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXII.

To the Counteſs D——.

Honoured Madam, *Halifax, Oct.* 26, 1749.

THOUGH I am jealous of myſelf, leſt I ſhould make too free with perſons in high life, yet when I have good news to ſend concerning the kingdom of JESUS CHRIST, I am conſtrained as it were to write to your Ladyſhip. Will it not rejoice you very much, honoured Madam, to hear the glorious *Emmanuel* is riding on in the chariot of his goſpel, from conquering to conquer? Every day people flock to hear the word, like doves to their windows. I have preached about thirty times in *Yorkſhire*, and at the deſire of many am returned thither again. The latter end of next week I hope to ſee good Lady *H*——*n*. I ſuppoſe her Ladyſhip will detain me a few

few days at *Ashby*, and then I purpose coming directly to *London*. Thanks be to GOD, all places are near alike to me, so that I can but be doing something for Him, who hath done and suffered so much for me. This I would have to be my meat and my drink. To me to live, let it be CHRIST; for life is no further desirable than as we can improve it to the promoting his glory. *Mary* thought so, who in the days of his flesh sat at the Redeemer's feet and heard his words. This I believe is your Ladyship's daily employ; a glorious employ indeed. How sweet must his fruit be unto your Ladyship's taste! Surely it is sweeter than the honey or the honeycomb. And if the first-fruits are so delightful, how infinitely delightful must the full harvest be! Go on, honoured Madam, and whatever others may do, still keep pursuing after more and more of that better part, which shall never be taken away from you. JESUS is full of grace, and full of truth. Believers are welcome to him every moment. He is ready to water them continually with the dew of his heavenly blessing. It is our privilege to go on from grace to grace, till grace be swallowed up in endless glory. O that your honoured sister may march on with your Ladyship towards this blessed state! There she will have a house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. I send her Ladyship my most dutiful respects, and sincerely pray that she may be filled with all the fulness of GOD.—I hope your Ladyship is inclined to remember me at the throne of grace, your Ladyship knows my name, "The chief of sinners, less than the least of all saints;" but, for CHRIST's sake, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged
and willing servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXIII.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *Leeds, Oct.* 30, 1749.

ON *Saturday* evening I had the honour of your Ladyship's letter, and as it came before the *Manchester* post went out, I immediately sent the inclosed to Mrs. *G*——. If pos-

ſible I am perſuaded ſhe will comply. She ſeems to be quite in earneſt. I converſed for about two hours with the Captain and ſome other officers, upon the nature and neceſſity of the new birth. He was affected, and I hope it was bleſſed. Since I left them, I have preached to many thouſands at *Roſindale*, *Aywood*, and *Halifax*. I have alſo offered JESUS at *Burſtal*, *Pudſy*, and *Armly*, and have had three precious ſeaſons here. Congregations are exceeding large indeed, and both the eſtabliſhed and diſſenting clergy are very angry. They thundered I hear yeſterday heartily. But truth is great, and will prevail, though preached in the fields and ſtreets. Indeed it begins to be cold abroad now; but the LORD JESUS is pleaſed to ſtrengthen me, and people flock from all quarters. This day ſevennight, GOD willing; without fail your Ladyſhip may depend on ſeeing me. I thought to have been at *Aſhby* next LORD's-day, but a door ſeems to be opened at *Nottingham*, and I have thoughts of trying what can be done there. This morning I ſhall ſet out for *Sheffield*. May the LORD give me a pilgrim heart for my pilgrim life, and then all will be well! I know I have your Ladyſhip's prayers.—I think your Ladyſhip judges right in reſpect to the churches. I expect to meet with many rebuffs, but by the help of my GOD I ſhall leap over every wall. That your Ladyſhip may ſtand as a wall of braſs, is the hearty prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful obedient ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. H———.

Aſhby-Place, Nov. 8, 1749.

My very dear Friend,

I Thank you heartily for your kind letter to me, and your kind benefaction to poor Mr. *C*——. That GOD, whom you both ſerve, will plentifully reward and bleſs you. I am in great hopes, enough will be raiſed to pay his debts, and that a proviſion will be made for his future ſubſiſtence. Rather than *Elijahs* ſhall want, ravens ſhall be ſent to feed them.

them. Your preſent circumſtances almoſt diſtreſs me, and at the ſame time make me aſhamed. I think it requires more grace heartily to ſay, "Father, thy will be done," in ſuch a ſituation, than to die a martyr forty times. But my dear friend, though your body is weak and confined at home, your pen hath been active, and your works walk abroad. I hear of them from all quarters. GOD hath bleſſed, and will bleſs them. Let that comfort you, and if health any way permits, pray write again. Fear not, my dear dear Man; let faith and patience hold out a little longer, and then the ſtruggle ſhall be over. Yet a little while, and you ſhall join with that ſweet ſinger Dr. *Watts*, who whilſt on earth dragged a crazy load along, as well as you, for many years. As for my poor tabernacle, I wonder it is not diſſolved every day; but we are immortal till our work is done. Now is my time for doing; my ſuffering time may come by and by. O for ſtrength in a trying hour! Wherefore ſhould we fear? Wherefore ſhould we doubt? He that hath loved us, will love us to the end. This encourages me to hold on my way. Bleſſed be GOD, I have ſeen great things ſince I wrote laſt. The fields have been more and more white, ready unto harveſt. I am now at *Aſhby* with good Lady *H——n*. Her Ladyſhip has a great regard for you, and begs you would come and ſtay a week at her houſe. She will take great care of you. I think to remove hence on *Monday*, and ſhould be very glad to ſee you in my way to *London*. However this be, we ſhall meet in heaven. There the wicked heart and wicked world will ceaſe from troubling, and there the weary will enjoy an uninterrupted and eternal reſt. This morning we have been remembering our bleſſed Redeemer's death, and I was enabled to pray earneſtly for my dear Mr. *H——*. I beſeech the Father of mercies and GOD of all conſolations to excite you to do the ſame for my dear old friend.

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXV.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Nov.* 21, 1749.

YOUR Ladyſhip's letter greatly rejoiced me, and ſtirred me up to pray afreſh that our bleſſed LORD would give you to ſee of the travel of his ſoul, in the ſalvation of many at *Aſhby*. I am perſuaded your Ladyſhip was not ſent there for nothing.—But it is always darkeſt before break of day. I deſire to be thankful that your honoured Siſters are pleaſed to approve of me. Thanks be to GOD, I feel myſelf unworthy; but unworthy as I am, my poor prayers I truſt will reach heaven in their behalf. This day, both they and your Ladyſhip were remembered at the LORD's table. The Counteſs, Lady *G*—— and Lady *F*—— were there, and all I think are grown in grace and in the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. What encouragement is this for your Ladyſhip to go and ſpeak for GOD? All ſend their beſt compliments, and Lady *F*—— deſired me to inform your Ladyſhip, that the man who was ſent up has been taken care of. Bleſſed be GOD for putting it in your Ladyſhip's power to help the poor ſufferers of *Cork*. Laſt night I received a letter from Mr. *L*——, and purpoſe this night or to-morrow to write to him about what your Ladyſhip deſires; I think he will be a proper perſon. Mr. *W*—— I believe is at his houſe. I pity thoſe who have been perſecuted in *Ireland*. The miniſter being taken ſo ill near your Ladyſhip, was an alarming providence. But who ſo blind as thoſe that will not ſee? GOD honours your Ladyſhip, in making you inſtrumental to own and provide for thoſe, who are caſt out for his great name's ſake. Great ſhall be your reward in heaven. I hope you and your honoured ſiſters will have great comfort in the perſeverance of the poor baker. He is a *Jeruſalem* ſinner, a proper object for free grace to fix on. A woman of fourſcore, and a boy about eleven, have been lately awakened, and it is hoped converted, in *Eſſex*. May JESUS feed them all with bread that comes down from heaven! We have bleſſed ſeaſons here, and our LORD gives us to ſee his ſtately ſteps.

GOD

GOD prepare me for a ſuffering hour! Mrs. *C*—— has met with a heavy trial in the death of her only daughter, aged twenty. I hear ſhe behaves like a chriſtian under it. Happy they who know that promiſe belongs to them, "All things work together for good to thoſe who love GOD." How eaſy may *Iſaacs* be given up by them? But I forget I am weary, when writing to your Ladyſhip. Pardon my taking up ſo much of your precious time. I wiſh your Ladyſhip, your honoured Siſters, and children, all the privileges of the new-born, heaven-born ſons of GOD. This is the only return that can be made both to them and you, by, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged, dutiful,
and willing ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXVI.

To Mr. L——.

Very dear Sir, *London, Nov.* 22, 1749.

I Received your kind letter on *Monday* laſt, and to ſhew you how willing I am to carry on a correſpondence, I take the very firſt opportunity of anſwering it. Yours found me juſt returned out of *Yorkſhire*, *Lancaſhire*, &c. Since you heard of me laſt, I have been at *Sheffield* and *Nottingham*, and found the fields every where white ready unto harveſt. I believe my particular province is, to go about and preach the goſpel to all. My being obliged to keep up a large correſpondence in *America*, and the neceſſity I am under of going thither myſelf, entirely prevents my taking care of any ſocieties. Whether it will ever be my lot to come over to *Ireland*, I cannot ſay. I have ſome thought of being there next Spring; but I would not intrude on any one's labours. The world is large, and bleſſed be GOD, there is a range and work ſufficient for all. As for my manner of preaching, I believe, was you to hear me, you would find it calculated to ſerve all, but intended at leaſt to offend none. I profeſs to be of a catholic ſpirit; I am a debtor to all; I have no party to be at the head of, and through GOD's grace, I will have none; but as much as in me lies ſtrengthen the hands of all, of every denomination, that

preach JESUS CHRIST in sincerity. In this spirit I hope my dear Mr. *L*—— will find me, should he ever see me in *Ireland*; but whether I shall go there or to *America* in the Spring, is not yet determined. Future things belong to Him whose I am, and whom I desire to serve to my dying day, in the gospel of his dear Son. I earnestly beg an interest in your prayers, and in the prayers of all that love the LORD JESUS in sincerity. Pray how do the poor people at *Cork?* Lady *H*—— writes this concerning them. "I hope the poor persecuted people in *Cork* will be helped, and I should be glad if you could write in my name to any of them, and inform them that I would have written myself, but I know not how to direct. You may give them my kind assurance of serving them upon any occasion, and a hint that I believe they will meet with no more of the like rough usage." Thus far my good Lady. I have informed her Ladyship, that I should write to you, who I am persuaded will gladly and in a prudent manner communicate this to all concerned. And now, my dear Sir, have I not returned you a long letter? I love you, though I know you not, and the more so because I hear you breathe a catholic spirit. May the LORD increase it in your and all his children's hearts! I must now add no more, but subscribe myself, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXVII.

To Mr. N——.

Very dear Sir, *London, Nov.* 25, 1749.

FOR some few days I have been returned from my northern rout, in which the glorious *Emmanuel* gave me to see new wonders every day. It was no small concern to me to turn my back on *Scotland*, when so near. However it hath been greatly over-ruled for good. I have thereby been called to preach in many fresh places, and, glory be to GOD, I saw thousands flock to the hearing of the gospel, like doves to the windows. The generous offer made me by yourself and lady, I took exceeding kind, and gladly would I have embraced it, but——Well! what is, is best. "Father, not my will but thine

thine be done." Perhaps I may see you in the Spring; if not, ere long, dear Sir, we shall meet in heaven. My wife tells me, she answered Lady *I*——'s letter immediately. In this she joins, sending most grateful acknowledgments and cordial salutations. Blessed be GOD, we are both well, and surrounded with mercies on every side. — Only ungrateful, ill, and hell-deserving I, want a grateful and an humble heart. I am altogether an unprofitable servant, but our LORD I trust will purge me, that I may bring forth more fruit: for by this, and this only, I know our heavenly father is glorified. What I am most afraid of is, lest I should flag in the latter stages of my road. But he that hath loved and helped, will, dear Sir, love and help me to the end. I am persuaded your prayers and the prayers of christian friends will be very serviceable. O that you may be kept alive and warm in this cold declining day! Poor *Scotland*, I pity thee! I will pray for thy prosperity till I can pray no more! Be pleased to present our joint love and cordial respects to all friends in general, and we entreat you and yours to accept the same in a most particular manner from, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXVIII.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Nov.* 30, 1749.

I Think it is now a whole week since I had the honour and pleasure of writing to your Ladyship, and as your Ladyship was pleased to desire the prayers of GOD's people, I read that part of your letter. Thousands heartily united in singing the following verses for your Ladyship.

Gladly we join to pray for those,
Who rich with worldly honour shine;
Yet dare to own a Saviour's cause,
And in that hated cause to join:
Yes! we would praise Thee that a few
Love Thee, though rich and noble too.

Uphold this ſtar in thy right hand,
Crown her endeavours with ſucceſs;
Among the great ones may ſhe ſtand,
A witneſs of thy righteouſneſs!
Till many nobles join thy train,
And triumph in the Lamb that's ſlain.

The verſes were made by *T*—— *G*—— who is now under my roof. He has grievouſly backſlidden, but I hope is now returning home to his heavenly Father. We had an uncommon ſcene when he firſt came to me. I find the LORD will be ſanctified in all them that come near him, and will not ſuffer thoſe who are concerned in his cauſe, and with his people, to continue in ſin long undiſcerned. O that I may be kept ſimple, and honeſt, and zealous unto the end! Mine eyes wait upon thee, O LORD, from whence alone cometh my ſalvation! I find he never fails thoſe that put their truſt in him. Bleſſed be his name, I have got ſufficient to pay off Mr. *C*——'s debts.—Poor, yet attempting at leaſt to make many rich, I would have my motto ſtill. Mr. *L*—— alſo writes word, that the glorious JESUS hath raiſed ſufficient for his charity ſchool, and that he is much bleſſed in his labours. The book that hath been given to me for your Ladyſhip, I purpoſe ſending next week, with one or two of the *Sundays Thoughts* for your Ladyſhip's honoured ſiſters. Indeed I honour them very much, and pray for them and all related to your Ladyſhip very earneſtly. I was glad to hear by Mr. *R*—— that your Ladyſhip and all were ſo well. May you proſper and be in health both in body and ſoul! *London* already begins to diſagree with my outward man, but the LORD's ſmiling upon my poor labours ſweetens all. I have begun to preach by ſix in the morning. We have large congregations even then. I truſt we ſhall have a warm winter. I have not been at the other end of the town this week, but I find all hold on: however a leader is wanting. This honour hath been put on your Ladyſhip by the great head of the church. An honour conferred on few, but an earneſt of a diſtinguiſhed honour to be put on your Ladyſhip before men and angels, when time ſhall be no more. That you may every day add to the ſplendor

of

of your future crown, by always abounding in the work of the LORD, is the fervent prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, and obliged,
though very unworthy ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCLXXXIX.

To Mr. L——.

My dear Mr. L——, *London, Dec.* 3, 1749.

I Thank you heartily for your kind Letter, and yet more heartily thank our glorious *Emmanuel* for ſucceeding your charity ſchool, and ſmiling upon your public adminiſtrations. I have ſent Lady *H——n* an account of it, and earneſtly pray the bleſſed Redeemer to own and ſucceed you evermore. My winter quarters are made very agreeable; but ſo much buſineſs crouds in upon me, that I have not time to write long letters. I am looking out for ſome freſh ſermons for you. Mr. *H——*, with whom I ſpent ſome agreeable hours lately at *Northampton*, would let you have ſome, but his are all in ſhort hand. Here is a volume of one Mr. *H——*'s lately deceaſed that I gueſs will do for you. A friend to-day promiſes to ſend me *Gurnall's ſpiritual Armour*, of which I ſuppoſe you will highly approve. I will endeavour to bring or ſend it to you. I cannot think of ſtirring hence till after Chriſtmas, but before the Winter is over, I ſhall long for the Spring to come, that I may enter on a freſh campaign. The encouragement given me this laſt fall, gladdens my poor heart, and makes me to long more than ever to ſpend and be ſpent for that JESUS, who hath ſhed his precious blood for us upon the croſs. I know thoſe laſt almoſt parting words of our aſcending LORD, "Feed my lambs, feed my ſheep," will be engraven upon the tables of your heart. Our obligations to do ſo, are very great, at leaſt mine are. O that we may embrace all opportunities of ſhewing that we love our LORD more than every created thing. O for ſimplicity and godly ſincerity unto the end of our race! Yet a little while, and we ſhall reach the goal and lay hold on the crown. Yonder our LORD ſtands holding it out. It has thoſe words written upon it, *Vincenti dabo*. What is infinitely more, he will give us himſelf.

ſelf. We ſhall behold, we ſhall partake of his glory. *O gloriam quantam et qualem!* You will urge all to preſs after it. Bleſſed be GOD, that you have ſo many around you that have a taſte thereof. My hearty love attends them all. May the LORD JESUS be with your ſpirit, and give you to increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD! Nothing greater can be, nothing leſs ſhall be deſired in your behalf by, my dear old friend,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXC.

To Mrs. K——.

Dear Madam, *London, Dec.* 6, 1749.

I Thank you heartily for the acceptable favour of your letter, which came to my hand laſt night. It was quite welcome, as it beſpoke the language of a heart panting after GOD, and deſirous to be conformed to its great exemplar the bleſſed and holy JESUS. Go on, dear Madam, in his ſtrength, who hath loved you and given himſelf for you. Confeſs him before men, and he will confeſs you before his holy angels in heaven. I am glad that Lady *H*—— viſits you often. Whenever you meet, may the glorious *Emmanuel* cauſe your hearts to burn within you. What you propoſe for the poor caſt-out clergyman, will be accepted of and rewarded by our common LORD, as done to himſelf. GOD willing, I purpoſe waiting upon you next *Saturday* by eleven o'clock, and then I can receive your kind benefaction. *Colonel G*—— being with me when your letter came, offered to accompany me. Perhaps Mr. *C*—— will come too. I ſhall ſee him this day, and ſhall be ſure to inform him and his wife of what you deſire. Good Lady *H——n* would gladly make one in addreſſing the throne of grace. But ſhe is happy in yonder dead place, and *Dorcas*-like is always employed for the poor. Glorious privilege! Bleſſed redemption! JESUS can make us happy any where and every where. You have a neighbour that dearly loves him. I mean the reverend Mr. *Z*—, the king's *German* chaplain. I believe, Madam, he would be glad to wait upon you; he has now three miniſters with him, burning with the love of CHRIST, and going to preach the

the gospel in the *East-Indies*. Have you seen a little piece entitled *Sunday Thoughts?* I think you would like it much. But I forget myself. I wish you the best of blessings, all the blessings of the everlasting covenant, and beg leave to subscribe myself, dear Madam,

Your most obliged and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCI.

To Mr. W—— L——.

My dear Mr. L——, *London, Dec.* 9, 1749.

I Find by your last kind letter that the king's business requires haste. I therefore immediately dispatched it to good Lady *H——*, who I am persuaded will think it her highest privilege to serve the dear people of *Cork*. Whether your account of their sufferings has reached her Ladyship I cannot tell, but you will know soon. However this we know, that they have reached the ears of the blessed JESUS, who sitteth in heaven, and laughs all his enemies to scorn. He will take care that the bush, though burning, shall not be consumed, nay he will take care that it shall flourish even when in the midst of fire. In all our afflictions he is afflicted, and though the under shepherds be smitten, and his poor sheep for a while scattered, yet even this scattering shall be over-ruled for the propagation of the glorious gospel. It will be melancholy to have any preachers transported; but really the thoughts do not affect me so much, because I know what a field of action there is for them abroad. It has been my settled opinion for a long time, that CHRIST's labourers (at least some of them,) love home too much, and do not care enough for those thousands of precious souls, that are ready to perish for lack of knowledge in yonder wilderness. We propose having an academy or college at the Orphan-house in *Georgia*. Supposing the worst, hundreds may find a sweet retreat there. The house is large; it will hold an hundred. I trust my heart is larger, and will hold ten thousand. Be who or what they will, if they belong to JESUS, the language of my heart shall be, "Come in, ye blessed of the LORD." But perhaps this may not be the issue. The threatning storm

may

may blow over, and all may be at peace again. It is always darkeſt before break of day. May the glorious *Emmanuel* lighten the darkneſs of our minds! then we need not fear what men or devils can ſay of, or do unto us. Adored be his free grace for enabling you, dear Sir, to confeſs him before men, and to make *Moſes*'s choice your choice. Great ſhall be your reward of grace, though not of debt: he will confeſs you before his Father and his holy angels in heaven. When you write, be pleaſed to ſalute the dear confeſſors at *Cork*. I love them in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and pray the LORD of all lords to give them grace to quit themſelves like men, and be ſtrong. If any of my poor writings might be uſeful, I will ſend ſome to *Ireland* at any time. O free grace, that the adorable JESUS ſhould ever make uſe of ſuch a wretch as I am! This is free grace indeed. Help me, dear Sir, to adore it; and if at any time I can be ſerviceable, make no apologies, but write frequently, and command as well as pray for, my dear friend,

Your very affectionate brother and chearful ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCII.

To Mr. G——.

My dear Mr. G——, *London, Dec.* 12, 1749.

I Thank you for your kind letter. It beſpoke the language of an honeſt heart. If I am not miſtaken, your name is *Nathaniel*. This is what I fain would be, an *Iſraelite* indeed, in whom is no allowed guile. Such will JESUS guide in his way. I therefore have no doubt of your receiving a bleſſing, a bleſſing, in what you intend doing next *Chriſtmas*. You have openly called JESUS and his diſciples to the marriage: and ſuch proceedings are always owned of GOD, whilſt contrary methods are as ſurely either blaſted or embittered by him, who loves a ſingle eye and an upright heart. You will remember me kindly to Mrs. *H——*, and all that love the bleſſed JESUS in ſincerity. I deſire to be thankful for the ſavour that was left behind a preached goſpel. It is the LORD's doings. Let us continue praying, and we ſhall yet ſee far greater things than theſe. You do well to meet at *Rotheram*. My cordial

ſalutations

salutations, attend Mr. *C*——, Mr. *H*——, and their respective families. May the LORD bless them, as he did the house of *Obededom*, for the ark's sake! My advice is, quit yourselves like men, and be strong. If our LORD shall open a door, I fully purpose to have another stroke at Satan's strong-holds in *R*——. JESUS can and will make us more than conquerors over all. Blessed be his name for leading you, my dear friend, more and more into the knowledge of his divine, compleat, and everlasting righteousness. That is a rock against which the gates of hell shall never prevail. If we have a mind to go pleasantly to *Canaan*, we must lean, not on our frames, not on a stock received, but on our Beloved. Looking to him is the only way of being saved from every evil that annoys and disturbs us. It is his blood, sprinkled by the blessed Spirit upon the conscience, and that alone, which cleanseth from all sin. Whatever, therefore, you want, go to JESUS: that is his name. And why? Because he is to save his people from their sins. And what amazing grace is it, that we should be in the number of his people? Surely that GOD-exalting, that self-abasing expression, "Why me, LORD, why me?" should always be in the mouth of one redeemed of the Lamb. But I must stop, though with regret. Whilst I am writing the fire kindles. I beg all your prayers;—no one wants them more. My wife returns her love. I believe good Lady *H*—— hath no place suitable for the person you mention. Why should she fly from her cross? Sometimes we do best when surrounded by enemies: they keep us upon our watch. JESUS is able to preserve us, though in a burning bush. To his never-failing mercy do I commend you all, and am, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ready servant
for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCIII.

To Mr. H——.

My dear Mr. H——, *London, Dec.* 13, 1749.

YOUR kind letter almost made me to blush. I little thought, when I left *N*——, that you should have written first; but I have been so engaged since I came to town,

town, that I could not well write to you before now. However, you have generally been in my thoughts; and I have not failed to remember you before him, who is able to save to the uttermost all that come to the Father in and through him. I see you are still under the rod, and I trust are enabled to kiss the hand that holds it. These afflictions, at present are not joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, through these many tribulations, we shall at length enter into eternal glory. By doing, or suffering, or by both, our active and passive graces must be kept in continual exercise. Your sufferings are of a peculiar nature; peculiar grace shall be given under, and a peculiar conquest granted over them. Look, my dear Sir, not to the *Mysticks*, but to JESUS. Indeed, his righteousness is the only rock on which you can build any solid comfort. In this, and in this only are you compleat. This is the only breastplate; and faith in this, a true, living, operative faith in this, is the only shield whereby the believer will be enabled to repel all the fiery darts of the wicked one. Thanks be to GOD, who hitherto hath given you to triumph, hath raised you from a bed of sickness, and set you on a throne, I mean your pulpit again. May the glorious *Emmanuel* enable you to speak from thence both to him and his people, as becometh the lively oracles of GOD. I find Satan does all that he can to prevent your using your pen. The LORD will rebuke him in due time, and cause it yet to become the pen of a ready writer. I am glad you have opened a correspondence with our elect Lady. Keep it open I entreat you, my dear friend, and be not *nimis nullus*. Alas! if differences of every kind were to hinder any one, surely I must be the man. But in JESUS is my strength found; and as my day is, so he causes my strength to be. Thanks be to his holy name, we have seen his outgoings frequently of late in *London*. His glory hath filled the Tabernacle, and many have been brought under fresh concern for their souls. I shall be glad to hear that Dr. *S*—— hath begun to speak for the LORD. But what can be done, till we are delivered from worldly hopes and worldly fears? Perfect, unfeigned love to the blessed JESUS, can only expel these. That your dear soul may constantly overflow with it, and that

you

you may increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD, is the earneſt prayer of, my very dear Mr. *H*——,

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy friend, and brother, and ſervant in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCIV.

To Mr. James B——.

My dear Friend, *London, Dec.* 14, 1749.

IF you was rejoiced in hearing from me, I can aſſure you, I was delighted, when I received letters from my dear *Maryland* and *Bohemia* friends. Upon reading them, I hoped that our LORD was purging you, that you might bring forth more fruit to his glory. I hope you have found it a ſanctifying rod, and that it hath only whipped you ſo much nearer to the ever-bleſſed Lamb of GOD. Now, my dear Sir, now is the time to ſhew your gratitude; now is the time to begin ſteadily to purſue the one thing needful. What avail the many things of this poor tranſitory world, in a ſick and dying hour? Alas! they are nothing, and leſs than nothing. JESUS alone is all in all. He is the pearl of great price, which a wiſe merchant will gladly ſell all to purchaſe. It is worth all, or worth nothing. O when ſhall it once be, that the children of this world ſhall not be wiſer in their generations than the children of light! I truſt my dear Mr. *B*—— will labour to fulfil this wiſh, and with full purpoſe of heart cleave unto his once dying, but now riſen, aſcended, and interceding LORD. When ſhall I love him more; when ſhall unworthy I ſerve him better? My obligations to do ſo, are increaſing every moment. This laſt fall has been a glorious ſeed-time indeed. I have been in ſix or ſeven *Northern* counties, and thouſands and ten thouſands flocked to hear the word. I am now in my Winter quarters. Our LORD is pleaſed to bow the heavens, and come down amongſt his people. His glory fills the Tabernacle, and the ſhout of a king is heard in our camp. I wiſh I could hear of the revival of GOD's work among you. Let us pray, and not faint. You know who has commanded us to let him have no reſt till *Jeruſalem* be made a praiſe through the earth. Methinks I wiſh the months may fly away, wherein

wherein I am detained from coming to my dear *America* again. I entreat you to pray me over, and then I ſhall come in the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the goſpel of peace. The glorious JESUS deals bountifully with me here. I am better in health, than I have been ſome years.—My wife hath much improved in hers, ſince her arrival in her native country. She joins in ſending moſt affectionate reſpects. Pray remember us to all in the tendereſt, and moſt endearing manner; and believe me to be, my very dear Mr. *B*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCV.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Dec.* 14, 1749.

YOUR Ladyſhip's letter gave me uncommon joy. I cannot help being delighted, when any thing I write gives your Ladyſhip any peculiar ſatisfaction. The incloſed I immediately ſhewed to Colonel *G*——, who was very glad, but is ſtill concerned becauſe he does not hear from your Ladyſhip; and on *Saturday*, GOD willing, I ſhall read it to Lady *H*—— and Mrs. *K*———. At that time, I am to give them the holy ſacrament. Laſt *Saturday* I prayed with them; and in converſation, an aged gentlewoman was ſtruck: I ſhall ſee how the phyſic works next viſit. Thanks be to GOD, the Holy Spirit has not done ſtriving with ſinners. I have had glorious accounts of the ſucceſs attending the word in my laſt *Northern* circuit. Three or four freſh inſtances of conviction and converſion I have heard of here, within theſe few days. Whatever ſeems worthy of your Ladyſhip's notice ſhall be ſent. I wiſh I knew how a parcel might be beſt conveyed to your Ladyſhip. If your Ladyſhip remembers, laſt Winter application was made in behalf of one *Hill*, a Corporal. O that I could do any thing to expreſs my gratitude to your Ladyſhip and honoured ſiſters. In public and private you have my prayers, which I truſt will enter into the ears of the LORD of Sabaoth. I think your Ladyſhip hath great encouragement to go on, ſtriving to win ſouls to the bleſſed JESUS. Mrs. *T*—— is another jewel in your Ladyſhip's crown. May the glorious

Emmanuel

Emmanuel add daily to the number of them! We have golden ſeaſons here. Poor Mr. *H*—— was quite revived with your Ladyſhip's letter. He is under the croſs indeed. I am aſhamed to think how little I do or ſuffer for JESUS CHRIST. Next *Saturday* I am thirty-five years old; fy upon me, fy upon me! I beg the continuance of your Ladyſhip's prayers, that I may now begin in earneſt to glorify my bleſſed Maſter. Nothing elſe can ſatisfy, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCVI.

To the Old Mrs. B——. Boyard.

Dear Madam, *London, Dec.* 14, 1749.

IF this finds you in the land of the living, or rather this land of the dying, it comes to aſſure you that your dear letter and the other letters received from your dear family, gave me great ſatisfaction. Bleſſed be GOD, even the God and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, for wounding and healing. This is his way. He wounds, in order to heal, and in the midſt of judgment remembers mercy. Surely he is good in holding your ſoul in life, and being ſo much a ſtaff to you in your old age. He has been a promiſe-keeping GOD. He has not forſaken you when grey-headed, and when your natural ſtrength muſt neceſſarily begin to fail you. Though it is cruel to hope you will be kept out of heaven ſo long, yet who knows, but I may ſee you, dear Madam, on this ſide eternity. GOD willing, I purpoſe to embark ſome time next year without fail. The infinitely condeſcending Redeemer vouchſafes to crown my labours with great ſucceſs; but in the midſt of all, *America*, dear *America*, is not forgotten by me. Your family is peculiarly dear. I look upon you as my mother, and on your children as my brethren and ſiſters. I have lately been in *Yorkſhire*, where I ſaw a widow, whoſe huſband lately died in triumph, and who has five ſons and one daughter all walking in the love of GOD. Let this ſtrengthen your faith, dear Madam, and encourage you to hope that you ſhall ſtill ſee the travail of the Redeemer's ſoul in the ſalvation of all your children,

and be satisfied. The LORD's Spirit seems still to be striving with them; and I trust he will not let them go, till they are enabled to give him spirit, soul, and body to be sanctified throughout. My poor prayers shall not be wanting. We often think and talk of you. My wife, with me, sends you and yours a thousand thanks for all your kindnesses. We are both pretty well, and have the satisfaction of seeing the glory of the LORD manifested in the great congregation. O what a blessed master is JESUS CHRIST. I am just now come to my thirty-fifth year of age. I blush and am confounded, when I think for what little purpose I have lived. It is time now to begin to do something for Him, who has done and suffered so much for me. I beg, dear Madam, you will pray for me while life lasts. I am the chief of sinners, less than the least of all saints; but for CHRIST's sake under manifold obligations to, and am, dear Madam,

Your most affectionate, obliged friend
and ready servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCVII.

To Mrs. L——.

London, Dec. 15, 1749.

My dear and honoured Mother,

I Have been quite uneasy because your things have not been sent. The woman that was to procure them disappointed me. I hope you will not miss of them another week. Pray be not uneasy. I should never forgive myself, was I by my negligence, or any wrong conduct, to give you a moment's needless pain. To-morrow will be thirty-five years since you brought unworthy me into the world. Alas! how little have I done for you, and how much less for Him who formed me, and has heaped innumerable mercies upon me ever since I was born. O that my head was water, and mine eyes fountains of tears, that I might bewail my barrenness and unfruitfulness in the church of GOD! By his grace, I hope now to begin to work for Him, who stretched himself on the cross, and groaned and died for me. His care for his tender mother, excites me to wish I could do any thing for you. This is my

comfort, I hope you want for nothing. Thanks be to the LORD of all lords for his goodneſs to you in your old age! I hope you comfort yourſelf in him, who I truſt will be your portion for ever. After Chriſtmas I hope to ſee you. My wife ſends you her moſt dutiful reſpects. If you would have any thing brought more than you have mentioned, pray write to, honoured mother,

Your ever dutiful, though unworthy ſon,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCVIII.

To Dr. B——.

London, Dec. 15, 1749.

AND ſhall I forget my dear Dr. *B——?* I cannot, though I have received no letter from him. I remember his labours of love, I have heard of the ſickneſs of his dear yoke-fellow, I muſt not, I cannot withhold my pen from writing. And what ſhall I ſay? I truſt your ſoul proſpers, and that you can cry out with dear Mrs. *B——*, now in heaven,

——O happy rod,
That brought me nearer to my GOD.

Surely my dear friend has long ere now been convinced that good deſires will not carry us to heaven. There muſt be a cloſing with CHRIST, a vital union of the ſoul with GOD, or, in other words, "CHRIST formed within us." This was the expreſſion that firſt convinced me of the new birth. Since that, I hope it has been in a degree fulfilled in my heart. I want it to be more and more ſo, and to have the image of GOD ſtamped in more lively characters upon my ſoul. My dear Doctor, let you and I begin to ſtrive, not by way of contention, but in a way of holy emulation, which ſhall love CHRIST moſt, and live moſt to his glory. I hope that Dr. *W——* will join in this ſtrife. Pray my love to him, to Mr. *S——* and family, and to all *Bohemia* friends. I refer you to other letters for news, and beg leave to aſſure you that I am, my dear Doctor,

Yours moſt affectionately in our bleſſed LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCXCIX.

To Mr. N——.

My dear Mr. N——, *London, Dec.* 19, 1749.

IT is now almoſt an age ſince I wrote to you. Providence prevented my ſeeing you when laſt in the *North*, and ever ſince, buſineſs has kept me from writing. However, bleſſed be GOD, I can ſend you good news now I do write. For near three months I have preached in many places, and thouſands and ten thouſands flocked to hear the glorious goſpel. I have ſince had repeated letters of the impreſſions abiding upon the heart of many. Not unto me, not unto me, O LORD, but unto thy free grace be all the glory! At *Howarth* I met with *William Davy*, who has ſince been impriſoned for preaching. Though he is ſeemingly unqualified, yet I meet with many that date their awakening from their firſt hearing him. What ſhall we ſay to theſe things? Even ſo, Father, for ſo it ſeemeth good in thy ſight! I think he belongs to our LORD's family; and therefore what is done for him, he will take as done to himſelf. I hope all things go on well at *Glaſgow*. We have golden ſeaſons here. Winter quarters are made very agreeable. Many are brought under freſh awakenings. You muſt remember us in the kindeſt manner to all dear friends. I commend them and you to the mercies of GOD through CHRIST JESUS, and am, my dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCC.

To Mrs. R——.

Dear Madam, *London, Dec.* 20, 1749.

I Received your letter, and had thoughts of writing to you before it came; but had forgotten your name, and knew not how to direct. I rejoice that any good impreſſions have been made upon your heart by the bleſſed Spirit, under my poor unworthy adminiſtrations. I hope this will find you coming up out of the wilderneſs, leaning upon your beloved. You know whom I mean. It is the ever-loving, altogether

lovely

lovely JESUS, even he who hath loved and given himself for you. I know his love will constrain you to give yourself, even your whole self to him in return. This is all he requires, "Give me thy heart." Amazing! Who can help echoing back, "My heart, LORD JESUS, will I give." But we must give it him as it is. We must come as poor, to be made rich, naked, to be cloathed, and miserable, to be made happy. O glorious exchange! precious redemption! May the LORD JESUS shed a sense of it abroad abundantly in your heart by the Holy Ghost! It is he that must apply, and bring home what CHRIST has done and suffered for our souls; and when this is done, the kingdom of GOD is erected in our hearts, and it is our privilege to go on from strength to strength, till grace is swallowed up in endless glory. This I hope, dear Madam, you will find true by happy experience. Your business is to look up continually to the LORD JESUS, not only as the author, but also as the finisher of your faith. This will strengthen you under every weakness, and in the end make you more than conqueror over all. Your concern for Mr. *B*——, the Redeemer takes kind at your hand. Fear not, only believe. Press him with arguments, and GOD with prayers. And who knows but ere long your husband may draw in the same yoke, and you may live together as heirs of the grace of life. All things are possible to that JESUS, who is able to save to the uttermost all that come to the Father in and through him. To his tender never-failing mercy do I commend you, and am, dear Madam,

Your affectionate friend and ready servant
for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCI.

To Lady Ann H——.

Honoured Madam, *London, Dec.* 29, 1749.

WILL your Ladyship and honoured sister be pleased to accept, though late, my most hearty and grateful acknowledgments for all the kindnesses you conferred on me when at *A*—— place. They are noted in his book, who has promised, "That a cup of cold water given in the name of

a disciple, shall in no wise lose its reward." What a beneficent master does the christian serve! Who would but be his disciple, whose service is perfect freedom here, and who hath reserved in heaven a crown of glory for those that love him hereafter? I thank him ten thousand times for calling unworthy me to embark in his blessed cause! It is indeed a cause worth embarking in. It gives me great Pleasure to think, that some poor souls at *A*—— are under awakenings, and seem inclined to list under the Redeemer's banner. Your Ladyship and honoured sister, I trust, will now have repeated opportunities of seeing not only how JESUS receives publicans and sinners, but also how the Spirit of GOD strips the Pharisee of his pitiful fig-leaves, hunts him out of the trees of the garden (I mean his own tinsel performances), brings him naked to the bar, makes him see himself on a level with the worst of sinners, and then sweetly reveals unto him a saviour. Thanks be to GOD, I have had some blessed instances of this very lately; especially a boatswain of a ship, who a few weeks ago knew no more of the corruption of his nature, and the righteousness of CHRIST, comparatively speaking, than the whistle he used to make use of on board ship; but now hath undergone a wonderful change. What cannot grace do? Honoured Madam, I could say much of it, was I not afraid of being tedious. I hope your Ladyship will not be offended at my presenting you with Bishop *Hall*'s works. I thought your Ladyship and honoured sister might now and then like to read one of the contemplations, which, in my opinion, are very delightful. That both you and her Ladyship, and every branch of your noble family, may be every moment under the guidance and direction of the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, is the earnest prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged humble servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCII.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Mr. S——, *London, Jan. 2, 1750.*

THOUGH I am really very much busied, yet I cannot help complying with your request, lest it should be any disappointment. I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST,

and earneſtly pray our common Head, that you may be a ſcribe more and more inſtructed to the kingdom of GOD, and out of the good treaſure of your heart, bring forth things new and old, for the Redeemer's people. The more you are acquainted with, and ſee your compleatneſs in him, the more you will long after an entire conformity to him, and apply with greater boldneſs for freſh ſupplies of life and ſtrength. His faithfulneſs muſt make us faithful. He muſt be the *Alpha* and *Omega*, the firſt and the laſt. When we are once taught this, not notionally, but by the Spirit of GOD, then we ſhall go on our way rejoicing, and experience the glorious liberty of the children of GOD. Thanks be to his name for enlightening you into theſe truths; but I love to ſee the LORD JESUS bringing this about in his own way and time. He gives us glorious ſeaſons here. Yeſterday was a bleſſed Letter day. Theſe verſes were ſung for you, &c.

Thy work in the North,
O SAVIOUR, *increaſe*;
And kindly ſend forth
The preachers of peace.
Till throughout the nation,
Thy goſpel ſhall ring;
And peace and ſalvation
Each village ſhall ſing.

Thouſands ſaid, "Amen, and Amen." I have had brave news from *Virginia* and *Scotland*. O for a diſintereſted ſpirit! O to be willing to be poor, that others may be rich! O to be nothing, that JESUS may be all! I muſt not enlarge. Let me know when you ſet out for *Newcaſtle*, and whether the books ſhall be ſent by land or water. I get very little by them. I do not deſire it ſhould be otherwiſe. I believe that as many are given away, as anſwers to the profits of what are ſold. If ſouls are profited, I deſire no more. Troubles increaſe in *Ireland*. You muſt remember me to all, and let them demonſtrate their love by praying for, dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCIII.

To the Reverend Mr. G——.

Reverend and very dear Sir, *London, Jan. 2, 1750.*

WITH great pleasure did I receive yesterday a letter from Mr. *N*——, informing me of your boldness and success in the glorious gospel of the ever-blessed GOD. It came just as I was going to read an account of the LORD's doings in our parts to multitudes of souls. These lines were sung for you,

Thanks to the LORD, *our souls give praise,*
Because he makes his vineyard thrive;
Ten thousand thanks that still he rears,
In answer to our daily prayers,
Some faithful servants bold for GOD:
Uphold them by thy chearing blood!

GOD will hear our prayer; our cry shall come unto him. Go on, my dear Mr. *G*——. The more you do, the more you may do for the ever-blessed JESUS. Be instant in season and out of season, and boldly say,

For this let men revile my name,
No cross I'll shun, I'll fear no shame;
All bail reproach, and welcome pain,
Only thy terrors, LORD, *restrain.*

May GOD bless you among the students! Their names are *Legion.* He that catches one of them, catches many at once. We have blessed seasons here. I have good news from *Virginia.* I hear every day of fresh persons lately brought under conviction. A learned gospel minister, who was lately turned out for the sake of JESUS, I believe will be up here soon. Grace! grace! The more we are cast out, the more will JESUS come in unto us. You must remember me to all. Want of leisure, not of love, prevents my writing. I have frequently scarce time to eat bread: and little of that serves me. But JESUS is the bread of life. Whilst his servants feed others, he feasts them. Do you not find this true by

happy

happy experience? I know you do. Go on, preſs forward, dear Sir, and you ſhall find it more and more. Excuſe this haſty ſcribble. I hope to anſwer Mr. *N*—— ſhortly. My wife joins in cordial ſalutations to all, with, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCIV.

To the Rev. Mr. C———.

My dear Friend, *London, Jan.* 3, 1750.

YOUR letter ſurprized me; but *benefacere & male pati hoc vere chriſtianus eſt.* If your friend does not hurt himſelf, he is in no danger from me. I think ſometimes of *Joſeph*; He that appeared for him, will in time appear for me, and plead my injured cauſe. But all is well. The returns I have hitherto met with, ſhall not diſcourage me, or at leaſt make me to give over and ceaſe from ſerving you and yours. Mr. *L*—— ſends me dreadful news from *Cork*. *B*——— is there again, making havock of the people. Mr. *H*—— expected to be murdered every minute ſome time ago. I have been with ſome, who will go to the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and repreſent the caſe. I hope I have but one common intereſt to ſerve; I mean, that of the bleſſed JESUS. O for ſimplicity, and godly ſincerity! Our LORD abhors guile in all ſhapes, and ſooner or later it will meet with its own reward. I am glad you are ſupported—Our LORD is a ready help in time of need. We have golden ſeaſons here. Grace! grace! I wiſh you and yours a happy new year, and am,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCV.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Jan. 6, 1750.*

THE incloſed letters came to hand on *Monday* laſt, as a new-year's-gift. As they bring ſuch good news, I muſt communicate them to your Ladyſhip. The firſt writer is a *Virginia* planter, at whoſe houſe I lay, and who with ſome other gentlemen aſked me to play a game at cards: I refuſed, and retired to pray for him. His preſent wife is my ſpiritual child. The letters will ſhew how GOD was pleaſed to anſwer our prayers. This, and other things I meet with, more and more convinces me, that a liberty to range and publiſh the goſpel wherever providence ſhall call me, is what I am to maintain and preſerve. Mr. *A*—— abides ſtill, and as far as I can judge, diſintereſted. Bleſſed be GOD for ſtripping ſeaſons! I would not loſe the privilege of leaning only upon the LORD JESUS for thouſands of worlds. He alone can make me happy, and he alone without foreign aſſiſtance can bleſs; and bleſſed be his name, he daily makes me ſo. He has been pleaſed to remove in ſome degree the pain of my breaſt, and gives me to determine more and more, that every breath I draw by divine aſſiſtance ſhall be his. I thank him ten thouſand times that your Ladyſhip is ſo well pleaſed with Mr. *B*——. He expreſſes the ſtrong ſenſe he has of the obligations he lies under to the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and under him, to your Ladyſhip. O that neither of us may prove ungrateful in any reſpect! Next week I hope to let your Ladyſhip know how affairs go at Mrs. *K*——'s. I expect to ſee her then. Lately his Majeſty ſeeing Lady *Cheſterfield* at court with a grave gown, pleaſantly aſked her, "whether Mr. *Whitefield* adviſed her to that colour." O that all were cloathed in the bright and ſpotleſs robe of the Redeemer's righteouſneſs! How beautiful would they then appear in the ſight of the King of kings! This, honoured Madam, through free grace, is your dreſs. That your honoured ſiſters, and all your children, may be adorned

adorned in like manner, is the earneſt prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged and ready ſervant
for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCVI.

To the Reverend Mr. H———.

London, Jan. 8, 1750.

My very dear Mr. H———,

YOUR letter muſt not any longer lie by unanſwered. It is a pleaſure to me to ſteal a few minutes to keep up a correſpondence with one I ſo dearly love, and with whom I am perſuaded I ſhall live in the regions of peace and joy, through the endleſs ages of eternity. This the glorious *Emmanuel* hath purchaſed for us, and of this, (for ever adored be his free grace) he hath given us an earneſt! Supported with this, I am ſtill enabled to purſue my delightful work of preaching to poor ſinners the unſearchable riches of redeeming love. Thouſands and thouſands flock to hear, and we have had a bleſſed Chriſtmas and new year's ſeaſon indeed. In the midſt of all, I want more retirement. I want to read, meditate, and write. But I deſpair of getting much time for theſe things, till I get upon the mighty waters. In the mean while, I thank the Redeemer for letting my hands be full of work. Theſe words lately have followed me, "Dwell in the land, be doing good, and verily thou ſhalt be fed." Theſe words embolden me to inform you of two that love CHRIST, and therefore I believe you love them, and I think they want aſſiſtance; *G——— F——* and *I——— H———*. The former I think has about eleven children, and ſcarce a crown a week to maintain them; and the latter writes me word, "He is about a guinea behind hand." I am doing what I can for them, and if you would ſend them a ſmall token, or now and then let me have a little to give to the many chriſtian objects that apply to me, I know not how your generous heart could lay out a little to more advantage. You know the pleaſure of doing for CHRIST's diſciples. I labour to contract every expence, and to ſave all I can for the good of others. Ought

I not

I not to do so, to express my gratitude to him, who for my sake had not where to lay his head, and though he was rich, yet he became poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich. Much, yea very much of his divine unction do I pray may be given to my dear Mr. *H*—— in his present plan. May the LORD make your pen the pen of a ready writer, and after death may your writings be blest to thousands yet unborn! I believe they will. O my dear friend, whilst I am writing the fire kindles. Blessed be GOD for JESUS CHRIST! Blessed be GOD for all the mercies he hath conferred upon us! O that this new year may be filled with good works, flowing from a principle of love and a new nature! That the LORD may bless and keep you, and fill you with all his divine fulness, is the continual earnest prayer of, my dear, dear old friend,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCVII.

To the Reverend Mr. B———.

My very dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 12, 1750.

LEST I should be hindered to-morrow, or in the beginning of the week, I now sit down to answer your kind letter. O that I may be helped to write something that may do you service, and be a means of quickening you in that delightful cause in which you are embarked. I see, my dear Sir, you are like to have hot work, before you quit the field: —For I find you have begun to batter Satan's strongest hold, I mean the self-righteousness of man. Here, Sir, you must expect the strongest opposition. It is the *Diana* of every age. It is the golden image, which that apostate *Nebuchadnezzar*, Man, continually sets up; and the not falling down to worship it, but much more for us to speak, write, or preach against it, exposes one immediately to the fury of its blind votaries, and we are thrown directly into a den of devouring lions. But fear not, Mr. *B*——, the GOD whom we serve, the captain under whose banner we are listed, is able to deliver us. He knows how to train us up gradually for war, and is engaged to bring us off more than conquerors from the field

of battle. If any one need give way, it must be the poor creature that is writing to you, for I believe there is not a person living, more timorous by nature. But I trust in a degree, JESUS hath delivered me from worldly hopes and worldly fears, and by his grace strengthening me, he makes me often bold as a lion. But O, my dear Sir, this pretty character of mine I did not at first care to part with; 'twas death to be despised, and worse than death to think of being laughed at by all. But when I began to consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, I then longed to drink of the same cup, and blessed be GOD, contempt and I are pretty intimate, and have been so for above twice seven years. JESUS's love makes it a very agreeable companion, and I no longer wonder that *Moses* made such a blessed choice, and rather chose to suffer affliction with the people of GOD, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. May the LORD JESUS make us thus minded! For there is no doing good without enduring the scourge of the tongue; and take this for a certain rule, "The more successful you are, the more hated you will be by Satan, and the more despised you will be by those that know not GOD." What has the honoured Lady suffered under whose roof you dwell! Above all, what did your blessed master suffer, who hath done such great things for you? O let us follow him, though it be through a sea of blood. I could enlarge, but time will not permit. I am ashamed of my unprofitableness, and must retire, after begging that you will not forget, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCVIII.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Jan.* 12, 1750.

THOUGH I have missed two posts, yet the only cause of my not writing was a fear of being troublesome, and too particular and prolix in the accounts sent your Ladyship in my last letters. Your Ladyship's kind letter this afternoon, together with the inclosed, which I received yesterday, give me fresh occasion to renew that pleasing employ of acquaint-

ing

ing your Ladyship with some more particulars. Every day we have new hearers, and I find some or another are almost continually brought under convictions, or are edified at the tabernacle. I have offered Mr. *W*—— to assist occasionally at his chapel, and I don't know but it may be accepted. Your Ladyship will hear soon. O that I may learn from all I see, to desire to be nothing! and to think it my highest privilege to be an assistant to all, but the head of none. I find a love of power sometimes intoxicates even GOD's own dear children, and makes them to mistake passion for zeal, and an over-bearing spirit for an authority given them from above. For my own part, I find it much easier to obey than govern, and that it is much safer to be trodden under foot, than to have it in one's power to serve others so. This makes me fly from that, which at our first setting out we are too apt to court. Thanks be to the LORD of all Lord's for taking any pains with ill and hell deserving me! I cannot well buy humility at too dear a rate. This is a grace after which your Ladyship pants, and with which our LORD will delight to fill you more and more. Your Ladyship's letter convinces me, that those who know and do most, think they know and do least. If it were not so, grace itself would prove our bane, and goodness and zeal, through the pride and corruption of our hearts, be our destroyers. Honoured Madam, my hands and heart are continually lifted up for you, that you may abound evermore in every good word and work, and be cloathed with that humility which your Ladyship delights to wear every day; I mean that humble mind which was in CHRIST JESUS. I rejoice exceedingly in the comfort which your Ladyship has in Mr. *B*——. I shall take care to cultivate our acquaintance, and earnestly pray that it may be blessed to our mutual improvement. I trust he will be a good soldier of JESUS CHRIST, and doubt not ere long I shall hear of his receiving some wounds and scars of honour in the field of battle. After I left Mr. Z——, by appointment I went to Mrs. *K*——, to whom with the Countess, Lady *G*——, Mr. *C*——, and one Mrs. *B*——, I gave the blessed sacrament, and afterwards a word of exhortation. Our LORD was there, and your Ladyship *&c.* were remembered before him. On *Tuesday* next the blessed feast is to be repeated at the

the Countess's house, and on *Wednesday*, GOD willing, I shall leave town for about five weeks. All I think are as hearty as ever, and I trust some will take deep root downwards, and bear fruit upwards. His Majesty seems to have been acquainted with some things about us, by what passed in his discourse with Lady *Chesterfield*. The particulars are these; her Ladyship had a suit of cloaths on, with a brown ground and silver flowers, which was brought from abroad. His Majesty coming round to her, first smiled and then laughed quite out. Her Ladyship could not imagine what was the matter. At length his Majesty said, "I know who chose that gown for you: — Mr. *Whitefield*; and I hear that you have attended on him this year and half." Her Ladyship answered, "Yes I have, and like him very well;" but after she came to her chair, was grieved she had not said more; so that I find her Ladyship is not ashamed. O that she and all that have heard the gospel, may have grace given them to speak of their dear Redeemer, even before kings, when called to it, and not be daunted! I have also been with the Speaker about the poor people in *Ireland*. Mr. *G*—— introduced me, and opened the matter well. His honour expressed a great regard for your Ladyship, and great resentment at the indignities the poor sufferers underwent; but said, "Lord *H*—— or the secretary of state, were the propereſt persons to be applied to, and he did not doubt but that your Ladyship's application would get their grievances redressed." I wished for a memorial to acquaint him with particulars. He treated me with great candour, and assured me no hurt was designed us by the state. Mr. *G*—— was quite hearty, and has the utmost respect for your Ladyship. To-morrow I am to preach at Mr. *W*——'s chapel, and I suppose on *Sunday* also. O that I may be a freed-man, and ready to help all that preach and love the LORD JESUS in sincerity! I bless GOD for Mr. *B*———, and am exceedingly obliged to good Lady *A*———. I am ashamed of the length of this, but as it is on business, your Ladyship will excuse, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged, ready servant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCIX.

To Mr. L———.

Very dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 18, 1750.

LAST *Monday* I waited upon the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, with one Mr. *G*——, a diſſenting miniſter, who opened our poor ſuffering brethren's caſe in a proper manner.—The Speaker expreſſed great reſentment upon hearing of the indignities they had met with, and ſaid, that if it did properly belong to him, he would make a thorough ſearch into the affair. But he wondered application had not been made to Lord *H*——, who was the King's repreſentative in *Ireland.* He at the ſame time wanted to be informed of more particulars. For want of a memorial, I could only ſhew him the contents of your letter. Two things therefore ſeem neceſſary. Be pleaſed to ſend a well-atteſted narrative of the whole affair, and wait upon Lord *H*—— yourſelf. A friend of mine intends writing to Lord Baron *B*———. Is he in *Dublin?* As ſoon as ever I hear from you, more may be done. In the mean while, the dear ſouls have my conſtant prayers, and ſhall have my utmoſt endeavours to ſerve them. I count their ſufferings my own. Pray let me hear how they do. We have great peace here. The bleſſed JESUS manifeſts himſelf among us, and you know that his preſence is all in all. Hearty *Amens* are given, when our friends are mentioned in prayer at tabernacle. To-morrow I am to preach at Mr. *W*——'s chapel. O that it may be for the Redeemer's glory and his people's good! I am a debtor to the *Greek* and to the *Barbarian*, to the wiſe and to the unwiſe, and think it my higheſt privilege to preach CHRIST and him crucified to all. I know you wiſh me proſperity. Strange! that the love of JESUS ſhould unite hearts at ſuch a diſtance, perſons who never converſed with each other. But thus it is. Bleſſed be GOD, we belong to one family, are travelling to one country, are redeemed by the ſame blood, and are heirs of the ſame glory. O glorious proſpect! How happy are all they that put

their

their truſt in the LORD JESUS! I commend you and yours to his everlaſting mercy, and am, my very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our Great High Prieſt,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCX.

To Mr. H———.

London, Jan. 18, 1750.

My very dear Mr. H———,

A Few days ago I received your welcome letter dated *November* 1, at a time I was wondering that I did not hear oftener from you. Bleſſed be GOD for dealing ſo favourably with my dear families, and for giving the proſpect of ſuch a plentiful crop! I take it as an earneſt that the LORD JESUS will be the LORD GOD of *Bethesda*, and let the world ſee that deſigns founded on him ſhall proſper. I ſhall not wonder to hear by and by that you are P——t. O that you and I, my dear man, may be cloathed with humility, and the more we are exalted by others, the more may we be abaſed in our own eyes! Then will the high and lofty One delight to dwell in us, and proſperity itſelf, that dangerous thing, ſhall not deſtroy us. O that ſomething may now be done for the poor negroes. A good beginning now is of vaſt conſequence. Pray ſtir in it, and let us exert our utmoſt efforts in ſtriving to bring ſome of them to the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. Mr. Z—— will readily concur in any proper meaſures for promoting ſo bleſſed a work. I ſent him a copy of your letter, and the original to good Lady *H*——. This night I have agreed to take little *Joſeph* and his ſiſter. Mr. *H*—— *A*—— hath been with me, and I find he is deſirous, as are all their relations, that I ſhould take them, for they will be but poorly provided for here. I think they have a kind of natural right to be maintained at *Bethesda*, and I have written to Mr. *B*—— about it. I ſuppoſe in your next, you will acquaint me with particulars concerning their father, and how he hath left his affairs. I hear there is a very little infant, beſides the other two. I would willingly have that likewiſe, if it could be kept till it is about three years old. I hope to grow rich in heaven, by taking care of orphans on earth

earth. Any other riches, bleſſed be GOD, are out of my view. If the crop anſwers expectation, I would have Mrs. *V*—— and the other poor of *Savannah* reap the benefit. Pray let one barrrel of rice be reſerved for them. O what cannot, and what will not GOD do, if we put our truſt in him! O for faith! O for humility! May I learn of JESUS more and more! He deals bountifully with us here. We have had a bleſſed Winter indeed!—I am pretty well in health, but my wife at preſent is ill. We ſalute you and yours, and all friends, and wiſhing you the beſt of bleſſings, I ſubſcribe myſelf, my very dear Friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our deareſt LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXI.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *London, Jan.* 23, 1750.

THOUGH I am wearied in walking to and from *South-Audley-ſtreet*, yet I muſt not omit ſending to your Ladyſhip this night. I would have written on *Saturday*, but I waited to ſee the event of things. On *Friday* I preached at the chapel to a very crowded and affected auditory; Mr. *W*—— read prayers. On *Sunday* I read prayers, and he preached, and afterwards the ſacrament was adminiſtred to about twelve hundred. More attended at the tabernacle than ever. Was it as big again, I believe on *Sunday* evenings it would be filled. This day hath been ſpent with the Counteſs, Mrs. *K*——, Lady *G*——, Colonel *G*——, Mr. *H*——, and Mr. *G*——. I gave them the communion, and afterwards preached. The public miniſter from *Genoa* came to hear me, and I believe it was a profitable ſeaſon. Lady *F*——, I hear, holds on, and writes word to the Counteſs, that ſhe wiſhes all were as happy as ſhe hath been in reading Biſhop *Hall*'s contemplations. Since I came home, I have received the incloſed paragraph that was ſent to a friend from *Portſmouth*. O that it may humble and quicken me! Surely ranging is my province. Methinks I hear a voice behind me ſaying, "This is the way, walk in it." My heart echoes back, "LORD, let thy preſence go along with me, and then ſend me where thou pleaſeſt."

Even

Even ſo LORD JESUS, Amen and Amen! O that I had ſtrength equal to my will. But indeed, honoured Madam, this body is a daily trial to me. Sometimes I can ſcarce drag the crazy load along. At preſent, I am too fatigued to enlarge. However, I would inform your Ladyſhip, that I do not leave town till *Tueſday* next. My wife hath been confined to her bed ſome days, but is now, bleſſed be GOD, upon the recovery. GOD willing, I hope to write to Mr. *B*—— and the poor baker ſoon. If your Ladyſhip wants any more books to diſpoſe of, I hope your Ladyſhip will mention it in your next. Your Ladyſhip, Lady *Ann*, &c. were remembered heartily to-day. May the prayer enter into the ears of the LORD of Sabaoth! I believe it will. I can only now commend your Ladyſhip and honoured relations to the GOD of all grace, and haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged and very
chearful ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXII.

To Mr. H——.

London, Jan. 26, 1750.

My dear Mr. H——,

I Wrote to you not long ago, but that is no reaſon why I ſhould not drop you a few lines now. I hope they will find you and your dear yoke-fellow reſigned to the diſpenſations of providence, and chearfully ſaying, "It is well." I write thus, becauſe Mr. *H*—— informed me in his laſt, that old Madam *W*—— was like to die. If ſhe is yet alive, you will preſent to her my ſincere love and ſervice. I am endeavouring to prepare for my great change every day, by looking up to JESUS, and ſpending and being ſpent for the good of thoſe ſouls for whom he ſhed his precious blood. Glory be to his great name, my labour is not in vain in the LORD. My work increaſes on my hands, and the proſpect of being ſerviceable widens continually more and more. I beg the continuance of your prayers, and aſſure you that mine, ſuch as they are, always attend you and yours and all my dear *Carolina* friends. O that the *Indian* land may become indeed wholly

christian land! Is there any thing too hard for the LORD?—Ere long I hope to come and sow a little seed in your ground. May the LORD JESUS make my way plain before me! The bearer of this is named *G*——; he once preached, but has (some time past) greatly backslidden. To save him from ruin I have taken him in, and have now sent him to *America*. If he keeps close to GOD and his book, he may yet do well. If not—he has good parts, and is of a good family. You will take no notice of what I write concerning him. I write to you as a friend. I mention it, that if he should turn out wrong, as I pray GOD he may not, you may see I was not deceived. I hope you visit *Bethesda*, which I trust will be yet brought to something. May the LORD hasten the time, when we shall arrive at the *Bethesda* that is above, even that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens! I can now add no more, but my most cordial salutations to you, yours, and all, and subscribe myself, dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXIII.

To Mr. L——.

Very dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 27, 1750.

I Received your kind letter, and am glad to find the storm is a little abated at *Cork*. I always thought it was too hot to hold long. I see by Mr. *H*—— that suffering grace is always given for suffering times. If they have honoured him so far as to give him some lashes, for preaching the everlasting gospel, I shall rejoice. Such an instance of persecution, I am persuaded will stir up the resentment of persons in power on this side the water. I beg for the dear people's sake, you would continue your accounts. They direct me in my prayers, and excite also the prayers of others. On *Monday*, GOD willing, your letter shall be read, and in the strength of JESUS CHRIST, we will besiege the throne of grace once more, in our dear brethrens behalf. Surely we shall prevail. Neither will I stop, but use all endeavours to extricate our friends out of their troubles. Inclosed you have a letter to the Judge. You may send or deliver it as you think proper. I hope you will

wait on Lord *H*——, and let me hear what he ſays. The Duke was ſpoke to, and laſt poſt I wrote to Lady *H*—— for the memorial, which if ſent, ſhall be put into the hands of ſome that are very near his Majeſty. Some honourable women are much your friends; JESUS makes them ſo, and when his people are diſtreſſed, if needful, a thouſand *Eſthers* ſhall be raiſed up. What are all theſe mountains in the ſight of our great *Zerubabel?* Let him but ſpeak the word, and they ſhall become a plain. I am glad my dear Mr. *L*——'s hopes begin to brighten. O for faith to look through every cloud! Ere long the ſun of righteouſneſs will ſhine upon us, and not one cloud be ſeen to intercept his bleſſed rays. I truſt I can ſay, that we have lately felt many of his benign influences warming our ſouls, and the proſpect of future uſefulneſs increaſes daily. O for humility! O for gratitude and love! I have now preached three times in Mr. *W*——'s chapel, and each time the LORD was with us of a truth. Next week I leave town for about five weeks, but if you write, your letters will be ſent to me. In the ſpring, I am apt to believe the cloud will move towards *Ireland*; but future things belong to him, before whom things paſt, preſent, and to come, are one *eternal Now*. Mr. *C*—— is much obliged to you for your kindneſs to his friend. He writes word, that you are a father to him. The LORD will reward you for all your works of faith, and labours which proceed from love. Perhaps it may do no harm, to let ſome know that application has been made, and is making to ſeveral in power here, and that they all expreſs great reſentment at the *Cork* proceedings. I find their afflictions are my own, and I pray GOD when they have gotten reſt, they may not grow lukewarm, but like the churches of old, walk in the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt and be edified. O for that reſt which remains for the people of GOD! It is juſt at hand. We have a bleſſed foretaſte of it here: We ſhall have a full fruition in the Redeemer's kingdom hereafter. I wait for thy ſalvation, O LORD! I can now only add my moſt cordial ſalutations, and beg the continuance of your prayers for, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our bleſſed I AM,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXIV.

To Mr. T——.

Dear Tommy, *Glouceſter, Feb.* 6. 1750.

THOUGH I left *London* in a very weak condition, and the weather was but bad in coming down, yet the Angel of the everlaſting covenant preſerved and ſtrengthened me, and I came to *Glouceſter* laſt *Friday* evening. On *Saturday* evening I preached, and likewiſe on *Sunday* evening, and twice the ſame day in the country,—at the new houſe, and at *Hampton*. Hundreds attended that could not come in; and at *Hampton* all was ſtill and quiet. I like that place very well. Yeſterday morning I preached at Mr. *Fowler*'s, and our LORD gave us a bleſſed ſeaſon from thoſe words, "I am the bread of life." On *Wedneſday* I am to preach at the *New-houſe*, and on *Thurſday* at Mr. *Fowler*'s again. From thence I think to go once more to *Hampton*, but am not yet determined. More come here than can enter, and ſome young fellows behave rudely; but that is no wonder; the carnal mind is enmity with GOD. *C*——— was rejoiced much with the guinea. How thankful are ſome only with the crumbs that fall from others tables! Bleſſed be GOD, our branch of work is a poor branch; but if we are honeſt and diſintereſted, dead to parties, and aiming only at the Redeemer's glory, and the good of ſouls, the LORD will appear for us in a manner that ſhall even make his children aſtoniſhed. I never was eaſier about his work than now. I ſee every thing in CHRIST's hands, and therefore every thing muſt end well. Go on then, my dear Sir, and let us be all heart. Remember me to your wife and all enquiring friends; and ceaſe not praying for, my dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXV.

To Colonel G——.

My very dear C——, *Feb.* 8, 1750.

YOUR kind letter reached me this day, juſt as I came out of the country from preaching the everlaſting goſpel, and where the bleſſed Redeemer was pleaſed to viſit and

greatly refreſh his people. Laſt *Monday* we had a like feaſt; and in this place the word has been attended with an alarming and quickening power. Contrary to my intentions, I have been prevailed on to ſtay all this week; ſo that I do not expect to be at *Briſtol* till *Monday* or *Tueſday* next. A letter, if you are pleaſed to favour me with another, may find me there next week. I am ſorry to hear you are ill of an ague; but this, and every thing we meet with here, is only to ſhake and free us of our corruptions, and to fit us more and more for a bleſſed hereafter. As long as we are below, if we have not one thing to exerciſe us, we ſhall have another. Our trials will not be removed, but only changed. Sometimes troubles come from without, ſometimes from within, and ſometimes from both together.—Sometimes profeſſed enemies, and ſometimes neareſt and deareſt friends, are ſuffered to attack us. But CHRIST is the believer's *hollow ſquare*; and if we keep cloſe in that, we are impregnable. Here only I find my refuge. Garriſoned in this, I can bid defiance to men and devils. Let who will thwart, deſert, or over-reach, whilſt I am in this ſtrong-hold, all their efforts, joined with the prince of darkneſs, to diſturb or moleſt me, are only like the throwing chaff againſt a braſs wall. O my dear Sir, what did I experience on the road this day! How did I rejoice at the proſpect of a judgment to come, and in the ſettled conviction, that, to the beſt of my knowledge, I have no deſigns, no views, but to ſpend and be ſpent for the good of precious and immortal ſouls. O that I may be content to be poor, to make others rich! O that I may never be ſuffered to ſeek my own things, but the things of the LORD JESUS! His hand, without adding our carnal policy to it, will ſupport his own cauſe, and make it more than conqueror over all. When fleſhly wiſdom, carnal reaſon, or human cunning is made uſe of, what is it, but, like *Uzza*, to give a wrong touch to GOD's ark, and in the end provoke GOD to ſmite us? I love you, dear Sir, becauſe I hope and believe you have a tenderneſs for all that belong to JESUS. I pray GOD to increaſe this ſpirit in you. For what we loſe of this, ſo much we loſe of heaven, and ſo far are we deſtitute of the mind that was and is in JESUS. A bigotted, ſectarian, party ſpirit cometh not from above, but is ſenſual, earthly, deviliſh. Many of GOD's children are infected with

it; but then they are ſick of a bad diſtemper. May the Spirit of GOD convince and cure them! But whither am I running? Excuſe, dear Sir, the overflowings of a heart, at preſent, I hope, filled with the love of GOD. It is free, unmerited, diſtinguiſhing, infinite love, or it would never flow into my ungrateful ſoul. As our LORD enables, I ſhall remember all you deſire. The King and his family I always remember in the moſt explicit manner. I hope you will ſucceed for *Miles*, and for the poor ſufferers in *Ireland*. Learn of *Eſther*, and go in the name of JESUS of *Nazareth*. Your relations are in the ſame condition as mine. Are we not as brands plucked out of the burning? Free grace! free grace! I hope to ſpend an eternity with you in praiſing the LORD of all lords for it. You will remember me to all, chiefly to the friend of all. You know my name, "The chief of ſinners;" but for CHRIST's ſake, very dear Sir,

Your moſt obliged, affectionate friend,
and very chearful ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXVI.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Briſtol, Feb.* 12, 1750.

WITH great pleaſure (on my coming to *Briſtol* laſt night) I heard of your Ladyſhip's recovery from your late indiſpoſition. May the LORD of all lords perfect the begun bleſſing, and give you to live many years to be an ornament to his church, and a bleſſing to his people. Since I wrote laſt, we have been favour'd both in *Glouceſter* city, and in the country, with very pleaſant and delightful ſeaſons. I have preached about twenty times within theſe eight or nine days; and though frequently expoſed to rain and hail, thanks be to the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS, am much better than when I left *London*. I hear that they go on well in *London*; and if we can be helped to keep a ſingle eye, I am perſuaded in the end we ſhall ſee greater things than ever. Every thing I meet with ſeems to carry this voice with it, "Go thou and preach the goſpel; be a pilgrim, be a ſtranger here on earth; have no party, or certain dwelling-place; but be continually preparing

preparing for, and labouring to prepare others for, a houſe not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." My heart at preſent echoes back, "LORD JESUS, help me to do or ſuffer thy will; only let me be kept by thy mighty power, and when thou ſeeſt me in danger of neſtling, in pity, tendereſt pity, put a thorn in my neſt to preſerve me from it." Hitherto he has in mercy anſwered my prayer; and though ſometimes painful to the fleſh, I thank him for it with my inmoſt Spirit. But ſurely no one's heart requires ſo much pains to be taken with it, as doth mine. Surprizing, that the friend of ſinners ſhould yet regard me! I muſt ſtill cry, "Grace! grace!" At preſent, honoured Madam, I am loſt in wonder. May the LORD JESUS be with your ſpirit, and with the ſpirit of your honoured ſiſters, whom I always remember. I doubt not but they were much concerned at your Ladyſhip's illneſs. May they long live with you, to be fellow-helpers of each others faith, and to ſhine as lights in the world! I hope the work goes on at *Aſhby*. How matters go on here, your Ladyſhip ſhall know hereafter. I purpoſe continuing at *Briſtol* till *Monday* next. I believe my brother thinks it beſt to have your little orphan-boy as ſoon as poſſible. May the bleſſing of many ready to periſh deſcend on your Ladyſhip! I muſt now add no more, but my moſt dutiful reſpects, and my ſincere acknowledgements of being, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful and ready ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXVII.

To Mr. W———. E. Wheelock

My dear Mr. W———, *Briſtol, Feb.* 15, 1750.

WHAT ſhall I ſay? Really I can ſcarce tell what to ſay, becauſe I have been ſo long ſilent to my dear *New-England* friends. But indeed were they to know my circumſtances, they would pity me; for my hands have been continually ſo full of work, and my removes from place to place ſo frequent, that I often had ſcarce time to eat bread. However, I muſt now break through all reſtraints, and ſnatch a few moments to inform my dear Mr. *W———*, that I can ſet up my *Ebenezer*, and ſay, "Hitherto hath my

GOD helped me." Words cannot well expreſs how bountifully he has been pleaſed to deal with me. The proſpect of doing good in my native country, is more and more promiſing every day. Laſt fall, the LORD of the harveſt was pleaſed to give us a moſt delightful ſeed-time in many places in the *North* of *England*;—in *Lancaſhire*, *Cheſhire*, *Yorkſhire*, *Nottingham*, *Newcaſtle*, &c. the word of the LORD ran and was glorified, and I hear of fruit remaining in every place. At *London* this Winter, the glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle, and ſince I have been in the country, we have had delightful ſeaſons. I am now going *Weſtward*, and in about two months time purpoſe going to *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and then ſhall embark for my dear *America* once more. My health is much reſtored to me, and I only want an humble and thankful heart. O my dear friend, what cannot GOD do? Ought I not to ſpend and be ſpent for the good of ſouls? Ought I not to be always upon the full ſtretch for Him, who was ſtretched upon the accurſed tree for me? Yes, the LORD being my helper, I will now begin to be in earneſt. And O that I may hear that a prayer-hearing GOD has revived his work in dear *New-England!* You muſt let this ſerve as an hiſtorical letter, to be read to my dear friends. I would write to many, but indeed I have not time. I long as much to ſee them, as they can do to ſee me. I begin to count the days, and to ſay to the months, "Fly faſt away, that I may once more ſpread the goſpel net in dear *America*." But my time and ſeaſons are in thy hands, O LORD; do with me as ſeemeth good in thy ſight, only let me love thee, and continue faithful unto death! You will remember me to my honoured friends and brethren in the miniſtry, and to all others as they come in your way. That grace, mercy, and peace may be multiplied upon you all, is the hearty prayer of, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXVIII.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Briſtol, Feb.* 17, 1750.

BLESSED be the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, who, in mercy to his church and people, is pleaſed yet to hold your ſoul in life, and make your Ladyſhip inſtrumental in plucking ſinners as brands out of the burning. All theſe things I look upon only as the earneſts of good things to come. Goodneſs and mercy will follow your Ladyſhip all the days of your life, and you ſhall dwell in the houſe of the LORD for ever. Lady *Ann*'s ſudden ſhock proves that the old obſervation is true, "Seldom one affliction comes alone." I rejoice to hear that her Ladyſhip is recovered, and pray the LORD of all lords ſo to ſanctify it to her Ladyſhip's better part, that ſhe may be ready at a moment's warning to go forth and meet the heavenly bridegroom. O to be always ready! to have nothing to do, but to die! Surely the Redeemer hath purchaſed this bleſſing for us. Doth not your Ladyſhip find it difficult to be reſigned to live, and to continue ſo long abſent from the LORD? But there is one conſideration which may make life deſirable to the greateſt ſaint on earth; he may here do and ſuffer for JESUS, and call ſinners to him; but in heaven all this will be over. Come life then, come death, JESUS may thy will be done in, by, and upon thy people! I know your Ladyſhip's heart echoes back, Amen. But what ſhall I ſay to the oppoſition ariſing at *Aſhby?* I truſt it is a ſign that good has already been done, and that more is ſtill doing. The Searcher of hearts knows how highly I value your Ladyſhip's letters; yet I think it honour enough to have leave to write to your Ladyſhip, without expecting punctual anſwers. O that I may gladden your Ladyſhip's heart with glad tidings from the *Weſt!* I believe I ſhall. I have been much helped in preaching here, and have heard of two that were thoroughly awakened when I was here laſt. Mr. *H*——, I think, does not loſe ground. The perſons that ſeem calculated to do him ſervice, muſt be ſuch as have a knowledge of themſelves, of the world, and of GOD, whoſe practice proves their eye to be ſingle, and their minds diſintereſted,

reſted, and who have gone ſeveral ſtages before him to heaven. Theſe would command reſpect from him; theſe he would hear, and to their judgment he would pay a great deference. The Captain, bleſſed be GOD, begins to be weary of his fine houſe; and I hope will be ſo uneaſy in every worldly ſtate, as to find no reſt for the ſoles of his feet. May the glorious JESUS reach out the hand of his mercy, take him into the ark, and ſhut the door faſt upon him! But I forget that your Ladyſhip is yet confined to your room. May the LORD JESUS make it a *Bethel*, a houſe of GOD, and a gate of heaven to your ſoul! He will, he will. I hear that the Tabernacle people are bleſſed in *London*. I am quite eaſy about that, and every other public concern, and deſire nothing but to approve myſelf upright and diſintereſted in the ſight of GOD and man. I hope your Ladyſhip will never find any thing to the contrary in, honoured Madam,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXIX.

To Mr. J—— B——.

My dear Mr. B——, *Exon, Feb.* 22, 1750.

I Received your kind letter a few days ago at *Briſtol*, and embrace this firſt opportunity of anſwering it. In *London* I was ſo continually buſied with a multiplicity of avocations, that I could not poſſibly write to you from thence. However, it has pleaſed him, whoſe mercy endureth for ever, to give me and his dear people a very pleaſant and warm Winter; and I truſt much real good hath been done to precious and immortal ſouls. Juſt before I left town, I preached four or five times in Mr. *W*——'s chapel, and adminiſtred the ſacrament twice or thrice. Congregations were very large, and the Redeemer cauſed much of his glory to paſs before us. At *Briſtol*, and in *Glouceſterſhire*, we have had delightful ſeaſons. At the former I ſaw and dined with Mr. *C*—— *W*——*y*, who talked about my preaching in their new room. I ſaid but little, having, as the Searcher of hearts knows, to the beſt of my knowledge, no view to head or gather a party, but only to preach CHRIST crucified to all. In this I am bleſſed, in this I find

un-

unſpeakable freedom, and to this, the neceſſity I lie under of labouring on both ſides the water, evidently calls me. I am now going *Weſtward*. Some time in *April* I purpoſe, GOD willing, to viſit your parts again in my way to *Scotland*, and then we can talk over many things. I think it is high time that all reaſonings *pro* and *con* about what is paſt, ſhould be buried in utter oblivion. But I fear——However, this is my comfort—"The LORD reigneth." Our buſineſs is to be guileleſs, and to go forwards, looking continually to that JESUS, in whoſe cauſe we are embarked. He will order all things well. I cannot do any thing at preſent for *W—— D——*. I tried my utmoſt for Mr. *C——*. If he turns out bad, woe be to him, after ſuch providential interpoſitions. I have no intimate correſpondence with Mr. *S——*, but hear by Mr. *B——*, that he is bleſt in the parts round about him. I ſee that he and all young preachers need the Apoſtle's caution, to "Take heed, leſt being puffed up with pride, they fall into the condemnation of the devil."—And this I know, that no one will ſtand long in this work, unleſs he is diſintereſted, and looks for nothing but poverty, diſgrace, and death. Whoſoever is willing thus to loſe his life ſhall find it; and, on the contrary, whoſoever by ſiniſter ends or practices ſeeks to ſave his life, the ſame (mark the end) ſhall loſe it. For the preſent adieu! The LORD be with you and yours! Be pleaſed to remember me to all as they come in your way. Direct as uſual; and ceaſe not to pray for, dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXX.

To Mrs. G——.

Dear Madam, *Exon, Feb.* 22, 1750.

I Rejoice to hear by your laſt kind letter, that the ſeed ſown at *Mancheſter* begins to ſpring up. More eſpecially, I deſire to be thankful, that you have grace given you, Madam, to confeſs the LORD JESUS and his goſpel before men. A bleſſed earneſt this, of your being confeſſed by him before his Father and the holy angels in the kingdom of heaven. The inward peace and ſatisfaction you enjoy by ſo doing, I am perſuaded

ſuaded far ſurpaſſes all you ever enjoyed, or could poſſibly enjoy in the polite world. With what unſpeakable comfort can you now ſing,

Be gone, vain world, my heart reſign,
For I muſt be no longer thine;
A nobler, a diviner gueſt,
Now claims poſſeſſion of my breaſt.

And if the beginning of the divine life be ſo ſweet, what muſt the end be, when this mortal puts on immortality, and the ſoul riſes to all the fulneſs of GOD. Bleſſed be GOD, who has given you to chooſe that better part, that ſhall never be taken from you! What have you to do now, but daily to ſit at the dear Redeemer's feet and hear his word; I mean, ſearch the ſcriptures, which teſtify of him: and for His great name's ſake, let your remaining life be one continued ſacrifice of love to GOD and man. This is true faith, even a faith that works by love, and overcomes this wicked world. Well may it be ſtiled *precious faith*. It is precious in itſelf, and precious in its fruits. It lays hold on, and unites to CHRIST, and carries out the ſoul day by day after a nearer conformity to him. It goes on from ſtrength to ſtrength, and conducts the ſoul at length to the perfect and uninterrupted viſion of the ever-bleſſed GOD. Methinks I hear you ſay, "LORD, evermore give me this faith." He will, Madam, he will: for he giveth liberally, and upbraideth not. Be not afraid of aſking too much. Lay your foundation deep in the knowledge of yourſelf, and you cannot build too high. O that the worthy Captain may bear you company to heaven! I truſt he will. Perhaps ſome time in the Spring, I may have the pleaſure of waiting upon you. I am now in the *Weſt*, and have had bleſſed ſeaſons in my way hither. Good Lady *H———n* hath been ill, but is recovering. There hath been an awakening at *Aſhby*; but oppoſition begins to ſhew itſelf in theſe parts by the inſtrumentality of a diſſenting miniſter. That the number may daily increaſe among you, and that you and yours may be watered every moment, is the hearty prayer of, Madam,

Your moſt obliged and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER [DCCCXX.]

To Lady H———.

Honoured Madam, *Plymouth, Feb.* 25, 1750.

THE day after I wrote to your Ladyſhip my laſt letter, I preached three times, once at *Kingſwood*, and twice at *Briſtol*. In the evening I ſtood at *Smith*'s hall window and preached. It was a bleſſed day. The next morning our aſcended Saviour gave me much of his preſence, and I came on my way rejoicing. At *Taunton* I met with Mr. *Pearſall*, a Diſſenting miniſter, a preacher of righteouſneſs before I was born. At *Wellington* I lay at the houſe of one Mr. *Darracott*, a flaming ſucceſsful preacher of the goſpel, and who, I think, may juſtly be ſtiled (what Mr. *Hieron* was ſome years ago) the ſtar in the *Weſt*. He hath ſuffered much reproach; the common lot of all that are owned in the LORD's vineyard: and in the ſpace of three months, he hath loſt three lovely children. Two of them died the *Saturday* evening before the ſacrament was to be adminiſtred; but weeping did not hinder ſowing. He preached the next day, and adminiſtered as uſual. Our LORD ſtrengthened him; and for his three natural, hath given him above thirty ſpiritual children: and he is in a likely way of having many more. He has ventured his little all for CHRIST; and laſt week a ſaint died who left him and his heirs two hundred pounds in land. Did ever any one truſt in the LORD and was forſaken? At his place I began to take the field for this *Spring*. At a very ſhort warning, a multitude of ſouls aſſembled, and the bread of life, that cometh down from heaven, was diſpenſed amongſt them. The following evening I preached at *Exeter*, where there is a little flock, and laſt night and this morning I have preached here: I humbly hope to the comfort of many. This afternoon, GOD willing, I am to take the field again. What ſucceſs I meet with here, and in *Cornwall*, your Ladyſhip ſhall know by another opportunity. I am now waiting for a letter from Mr. *B*——, which I hope will bring me the wiſh'd-for news of the confirmation of your Ladyſhip's health. This is what I continually pray for from my inmoſt ſoul. I am ſorry to inform your Ladyſhip (if it has not reached you before) that Mr. *A*—— of *London* is dead.

dead. I think he was one of the moſt lively, and like to have been the moſt ſucceſsful Diſſenting preacher in that great city: but our LORD orders all things well. The reſidue of the Spirit is in his hands. Bleſſed Redeemer, quicken my tardy pace, and make me alſo ready! Good Lady *Ann* I hope is now perfectly recovered. But why do I talk of a perfect recovery in this dying life? Then only ſhall we be perfectly recovered, when we awake in the morning of the reſurrection after our Redeemer's likeneſs; then, and not till then, will my poor ſoul be fully ſatisfied; then, and not till then, will your Ladyſhip fully know how much the temporal and eternal welfare of your Ladyſhip is deſired and prayed for by, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt humble, dutiful,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXI.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Reverend and dear Sir, *Plymouth, Feb.* 25, 1750.

YOUR letters always fill me with ſympathy. Your laſt I have juſt been reading; and in reading breathed out this ejaculation, "LORD, when will the days of his mourning be ended." Surely you are not always thus to ſtick faſt in the mire and clay. Certainly the time will come, when the dear Redeemer will put your feet upon a rock, and a ſong into your mouth, and order your going for the promoting his glory and his people's good. *Satan* hath indeed deſired to have you, that he may ſift you as wheat; but CHRIST, a ſympathizing, compaſſionate high-prieſt, prays for you, and your faith ſhall not fail. Look up then, my dear Mr. *H*——; you ſhall find grace to help in time of need.

Leave to his ſovereign ſway
To chooſe and to command;
So ſhalt thou wond'ring own his way,
How wiſe, how ſtrong his hand.
Far, far above thy thoughts,
His counſel ſhall appear,
When fully he the work hath wrought,
That caus'd thy needleſs fear.

This

This is the advice I give you. I know you will pray that I may take it myself. For I find, that sufficient for every day is the evil thereof. But the LORD causes me to renew my strength, and blessed be his name, enables me to go on my way rejoicing. In *London* we have had a blessed Winter. In the country we have seen a Spring time. Hither I came last night, and have preached twice since my coming. Thus I live a moving life. O that I may be a pilgrim indeed, and desire no continuing city till I come to the *New Jerusalem*, which is above, and the mother of us all. There, all that are born of GOD, whether *Mysticks*, *Calvinists*, &c. shall join in one common song, even the song of *Moses* and of the LAMB. Your hymn, for which I thank you, is a preparative for this. I sent it to good Lady *H———n*, who has been ill, but is now, I hope, recovered. Pray write to me often. Sorrows grow less, and joys greater, by being communicated. Load me as much as you will with all your grievances, and I will lay them before Him, who came to bear our sicknesses, and heal our infirmities. Pray what is become of Mr. *S——?* Will he preach, now he is sure of something in hand? But alas! the disease is in the heart. When the love of GOD reigns there, then and not till then will the love and fear of the world flee away. Blessed freedom, wherewith JESUS CHRIST makes his servants free! Remember me when at his footstool, and write long and often to, reverend and dear Sir,

Your's, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXII.

To Mr. F———.

My dear Mr. F———, *Plymouth, Feb.* 26, 1750.

EVER since I received your last kind letter, I have been endeavouring to redeem some time to answer it, but till now have not had opportunity. Indeed even now a multiplicity of business obliges me to be much more brief than otherwise I should. However, I cannot help informing you, that I am glad that the gentlemen of *Philadelphia* are exerting their efforts to erect an academy. I have often thought such an institution was wanted exceedingly; and if well-conducted, am

persuaded

perſuaded it will be of public ſervice. Your plan I have read over, and do not wonder at its meeting with general approbation. It is certainly well calculated to promote polite literature; but I think there wants *aliquid Chriſti* in it, to make it ſo uſeful as I would deſire it might be. It is true, you ſay, "The youth are to be taught ſome public religion, and the "excellency of the chriſtian religion in particular:" but methinks this is mentioned too late, and too ſoon paſſed over. As we are all creatures of a day; as our whole life is but one ſmall point between two eternities, it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe, that the grand end of every chriſtian inſtitution for forming tender minds, ſhould be to convince them of their natural depravity, of the means of recovering out of it, and of the neceſſity of preparing for the enjoyment of the ſupreme Being in a future ſtate. Theſe are the grand points in which chriſtianity centers. Arts and ſciences may be built on this, and ſerve to embelliſh and ſet off this ſuperſtructure, but without this, I think there cannot be any good foundation. Whether the little *Dutch* book I have ſent over, will be of any ſervice in directing to ſuch a foundation, or how to build upon it, I cannot tell. Upon mentioning your deſire to the King's *German* chaplain, a worthy man of GOD, he ſent it to me, and thought, if tranſlated, it might be of ſervice. Glad ſhould I be of contributing, though it was but the leaſt mite, in promoting ſo laudable an undertaking; but the gentlemen concerned are every way ſo ſuperior to me, both in reſpect to knowledge of books and men, that any thing I could offer, I fear, would be of very little ſervice. I think the main thing will be, to get proper maſters that are acquainted with the world, with themſelves, and with GOD, and who will conſequently naturally care for the welfare of the youth that ſhall be committed to their care. I think alſo in ſuch an inſtitution, there ſhould be a well-approved chriſtian Orator, who ſhould not be content with giving a public lecture in general upon oratory, but who ſhould viſit and take pains with every claſs, and teach them early how to ſpeak, and read, and pronounce well. An hour or two in a day, I think, ought to be ſet apart for this. It would ſerve as an agreeable amuſement, and would be of great ſervice, whether the youth be intended for the pulpit, the bar, or any other profeſſion whatſoever. I wiſh alſo, that the

the youth were to board in the academy, and by that means be always under the master's eye. And if a fund could be raised, for the free education of the poorer sort, who should appear to have promising abilities, I think it would greatly answer the design proposed. It hath been often found, that some of our brightest men in church and state, have arisen from such an obscure condition. When I heard of the academy, I told Mr. *B*——, that the new building, I thought, would admirably suit such a proposal; and I then determined in my next to mention some terms that might be offered to the consideration of the Trustees. But I find since, that you have done this already, and that matters are adjusted agreeable to the minds of the majority. I hope your agreement meets with the approbation of the inhabitants, and that it will be serviceable to the cause of vital piety and good education. If these ends are answered, a free-school erected, the debts paid, and a place preserved for public preaching, I do not see what reason there is for any one to complain. But all this depends on the integrity, disinterestedness, and piety of the gentlemen concerned.—An institution, founded on such a basis, GOD will bless and succeed; but without these, the most promising schemes will prove abortive, and the most flourishing structures, in the end, turn out mere *Babels*. I wish you and the gentlemen concerned much prosperity; and pray the LORD of all lords to direct you to the best means to promote the best end; I mean, the glory of GOD, and the welfare of your fellow-creatures. Be pleased to remember me to them and all friends as they come in your way, and believe me, dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXIII.

To Governor B——.

Honoured Sir, *Plymouth, Feb.* 26, 1750.

I Was much rejoiced to hear, by a letter lately received from Mr. *Bradford*, that your Excellency was pretty well, and am very thankful that you was pleased to enquire so cordially after unworthy me. I take this first opportunity of returning my most grateful acknowledgements, and to assure

your Excellency, you are not forgotten by me at the throne of grace. Ere now, I thought to have waited upon you in perſon, but it hath pleaſed Him, whoſe I am, and whom I deſire to ſerve in the goſpel of his dear Son, to detain me longer than I expected in my native country. The door for uſefulneſs opens wider and wider. The ſeed ſown among the rich, ſprings up and bears fruit in ſome; and the poor in various places receive the goſpel more gladly than ever. Laſt fall was a glorious ſeed-time in the *North* of *England*. In *London* we had a warm winter; and in the country we have had reaſon to ſing, that "the voice of the turtle is again heard in the land." GOD willing, I purpoſe ranging this Summer, and then to embark for my beloved *America* once more. Whether I ſhall ſee your Excellency is uncertain. You are upon the decline of life; and for my own part, I wonder that I live ſo long. But I truſt I ſhall meet your Excellency in heaven, where the wicked heart, the wicked world, and wicked devil will ceaſe from troubling, and every ſoul enjoy an uninterrupted and eternal reſt. This I am waiting for every day; and according to the preſent frame of my ſoul, deſire no continuing city, till I arrive at and take poſſeſſion of the *New-Jeruſalem* above. My Maſter makes ranging exceedingly pleaſant; and I hope in his ſtrength to begin now to begin to ſpend and be ſpent for him, who ſhed his own dear heart's blood for ſinful, ill, and hell-deſerving me. O that death may find me either praying or preaching! I hope your Excellency will increaſe my obligations, by continuing to pray for me. My prayer for you is, "That your Excellency may bring forth much fruit in old age; and that whenſoever you go off, you may be gathered like a ripe ſhock of corn into the Redeemer's heavenly garner!" That you may till then go on from ſtrength to ſtrength, and increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD, is the earneſt deſire of, honoured Sir,

Your Excellency's moſt obliged, dutiful,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXXIV.

To Lady H——n.

Saint-Ginnys, March 5, 1750.

Honoured Madam,

I Was ashamed to send your Ladyship so short a letter from *Plymouth*, but it was unavoidable. I was obliged to take horse, and therefore could only promise your Ladyship to send you particulars afterwards. At *Plymouth* I preached twelve times in six days, and the longer I preached, the more hearers, and the power that attended the word increased also. Friends grew more hearty, and enemies more softened. Mr. *T*—— and Mr. *G*—— came to *Plymouth* to meet me. I preached at *Tavistock* in my way hither, and yesterday was a glorious day of the Son of man. Our LORD gave us to see his stately steps and out-goings in the sanctuary. Four of Mr. *Wesley*'s Preachers were present, and also four Clergymen in their gowns and cassocks.—Mr. *Bennet* aged fourscore, Mr. *Thompson*, Mr. *Grigg*, and myself. It was a day of fat things. By the advice and desire of friends, I am going further Westward, and shall take care to let your Ladyship know, how the LORD is pleased to deal with me and his dear people.

Redruth, March 10.

Though the above was begun at *St. Ginnys*, yet I have not been able to go on with it till now. Every day I have been travelling and preaching, and could I stay one month, it might be spent to great advantage. At a place called *Port-Isaac* the Redeemer's stately steps were seen indeed, and his people were filled as with new wine. At *Camelford* I preached with great quietness in the street. At *St. Andrews* we had a very powerful season, and yesterday at *Redruth* several thousands attended, and the word was quick and powerful. Invitations are sent to me from *Falmouth*, and several other places. I want more tongues, more bodies, more souls for the LORD JESUS. Had I ten thousand, he should have them all. After preaching, about noon I am to go to *St. Ives*, and in about nine days I hope to be at *Exeter*. Your Ladyship shall be sure to hear how the LORD prospers the gospel plough. Mr. *T*—— is mighty hearty, and gone to his parish in a gos-

pel flame. The people here want it much. Surely, GOD will ſome time or another turn their captivity. Mr. *T*—— deſired his moſt dutiful reſpects might be preſented to your Ladyſhip. Bleſſed be GOD, that you are better. I am not forgetful of your Ladyſhip by night or by day. I hope the ſouls of your honoured ſiſters do proſper, and that you will yet live to ſee JESUS CHRIST formed in all your relations hearts. That every thing your Ladyſhip writes, ſays, or does, may be mightily bleſſed and owned of the dear Redeemer, is the continual prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged, and
ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXV.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *Exeter*, *March*, 21, 1750.

I Think it is now almoſt an age ſince I wrote to your Ladyſhip, but travelling and preaching have prevented me. Immediately after writing my laſt, I preached to many thouſands, at a place called *Gwinnop*. The rain dropped gently upon our bodies, and the grace of GOD ſeemed to fall like a gentle dew and ſprinkling rain upon our ſouls. It was indeed a fine ſpring ſhower. In the evening I rode ſixteen miles to *St. Ives*, and preached to many that gladly attended to hear the word; a great power ſeemed to accompany it. On the morrow, being LORD's day, I preached twice to large auditories, and then rode back again rejoicing to *Gwinnop*. In my way, I had the pleaſure of hearing that good was done, and had freſh calls to preach elſewhere. In the morning I went to church, and heard a virulent ſermon from theſe words, "Beware of falſe prophets." On *Saturday* the preacher was heard to ſay, "Now *Whitefield* was coming, he muſt put on his old armour." It did but little execution, becauſe not ſcripture proof, and conſequently not taken out of GOD's armory. On *Monday* I preached again at *Redruth*, at ten in the morning, to near (as they were computed) ten thouſand ſouls. Arrows of conviction ſeemed to fly faſt. In the evening I preached to above five hundred, at twelve miles diſtant,

and

and then rode about sixteen miles to one Mr. *B*——'s, a wealthy man, convinced about two years ago. In riding, my horse threw me violently on the ground, but by GOD's providence, I got up without receiving much hurt. The next day we had a most delightful season at *St. Mewens*, and the day following a like time, at a place called *Port-Isaac*. In the evening, I met my dear Mr. *Thompson* again at Mr. *Bennet*'s, a friendly minister aged fourscore, and on *Thursday* preached in both his churches. Blessed seasons both! On *Friday* we went to *Biddeford*, where there is perhaps one of the best little flocks in all *England*. The power of GOD so came down while I was expounding to them, that Mr. *Thompson* could scarce stand under it. I preached twice; a commanding, convincing influence went forth a second time, and one came to me the next morning under awakenings. The LORD JESUS has here brought home a lawyer; and one of the youngest but closest reasoners that ever I met with, is now under deep convictions. On *Monday* evening I came to *Exeter*, and with great regret shall stay till *Friday*. For I think every day lost, that is not spent in field preaching. An unthought of and unexpectedly wide door is opened in *Cornwall*, so that I have sometimes almost determined to go back again. I beg the continuance of your Ladyship's prayers, and hope Mr. *B*—— will let me know of your Ladyship's welfare. You will not be forgotten by, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged, and
chearful servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXVI.

To the Countess D———.

Honoured Madam, *Exeter*, *March* 21, 1750.

I Did not think of being so long out of *London*, without sending your Ladyship a letter; but I have been so employed in travelling and preaching and answering letters, that I have scarce had any time at all. However, I bless the glorious Redeemer, that I can now send your Ladyship good news. Every where the word of GOD has ran and been glorified. I am just returned from near the land's end, where thousands and thousands heard the gospel gladly. I have ge-

nerally preached twice a day, and rode several miles; but my greatest grief is, that I can do no more for the blessed JESUS. Wherever I am, your Ladyship and honoured sister, with the other honourable ladies, are continually remembered by me at the throne of grace. I hope all are determined with full purpose of heart to cleave unto the LORD. The earthquake hath been an alarming providence. Happy they, that have an interest in CHRIST, and are always ready! On Him alone is my strength and safety founded. Did not this support and comfort your Ladyship under the awful alarm? Go on then, honoured Madam, and by a constant looking to JESUS, make continual advances in the divine life, which I believe hath been communicated to you from above. The more you see of his excellencies, the more will all created things sicken and die in your view and taste. I commend your Ladyship to his never-failing mercy, and beg leave to subscribe myself, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful,
and obliged humble servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXVII.

To Lady H———.

Honoured Madam, *Exeter, March* 24, 1750.

AS I am persuaded your heart's desire and prayer to GOD is, that the kingdom of the LORD JESUS may be set up on earth, I cannot return to *London* without informing your Ladyship, that the gospel has been most gladly received in these western parts. I have been very near the land's end, and every where souls have fled to hear the word preached, like doves to the windows. The harvest is great, yea very great; but the labourers are few. O that the LORD of the harvest would thrust out more labourers! Something out of the common road must be done, to awaken a thoughtless world. GOD has been terribly shaking the metropolis. I hope it is an earnest of his giving a shock to secure sinners, and making them to cry out, "What shall we do to be saved?" I trust, honoured Madam, you have been brought sweetly to believe on the LORD JESUS, and have experienced the beginnings of a real salvation in your heart. What a

mercy is this! To be plucked as a brand out of the burning, to be one of thoſe few *Mighty* and *Noble* that are called effectually by the grace of GOD; what conſolation muſt this adminiſter to your Ladyſhip under all afflictions! What can ſhake a ſoul whoſe hopes of happineſs, in time and eternity, are built upon the rock of ages? Winds may blow, rains may and will deſcend even upon perſons of the moſt exalted ſtations; but they that truſt in the LORD JESUS CHRIST never ſhall, never can be totally confounded. That your Ladyſhip may every day and hour experience more and more of this bleſſed truth, is the earneſt prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obedient humble ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXVIII.

To Mr. L——.

Very dear Sir, *London, April* 3, 1750.

LAST *Friday* evening I came to town, and would have anſwered your kind letters (which I found waiting for me here) laſt poſt, had not fatigue and a multiplicity of buſineſs prevented me. Surely the diſtreſs of our ſuffering friends is great, but he that dwelleth on high is greater. I have already laid your account before ſome particular perſons, and ſhall uſe all poſſible means to have our dear friends grievances redreſſed. In the interim, let us beſiege the throne of grace, and by earneſt prayer engage his aſſiſtance, who has promiſed that the gates of hell ſhall never prevail againſt his Church. As I hear Mr. *John W*—— is now in *Ireland*, I ſuppoſe he will beſt anſwer your queſtion about "coming out from amongſt them." For my part, I think my buſineſs is to preach the goſpel unto all, without ſetting up any particular party. The acceptance which the glorious *Emmanuel* is pleaſed to give to me, and the various calls ſent, as well as the freedom I find in complying with them, confirm me more and more that this is my province. I am juſt returned from the Weſt, where I have ſeen the fields every where white ready unto harveſt. Though thouſands flock to hear the word in town, yet I almoſt think every day loſt in which I am not preaching abroad the country, now the ſummer is coming on. GOD knows whether I ſhall reach as far as *Ireland*. Pray come your accounts. I cannot help thinking, but that this

tion is a bleſſed preſage of a future glorious harveſt in the kingdom of *Ireland*. Yet a little while, and he that will come, ſhall come, and will not tarry. That your ſoul may be filled with all the divine fulneſs, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXIX.

To Governor B——. Belcher

Honoured Sir, *Portſmouth, April* 27, 1750.

I Wrote to your Excellency laſt from *Plymouth*, where, as well as in many other places in the weſt, the LORD of all lords has been pleaſed greatly to bleſs my poor unworthy miniſtrations. I am now (after having ſeen much of the Redeemer's power in *London*) making a ſhort elopement to *Portſmouth*, and from thence I purpoſe to go into the North, where I truſt thouſands are already awakened to ſeek after the things which lead to life eternal. The harveſt in *England* is exceeding great. I know that your Excellency will pray, that the LORD of the harveſt may thruſt out more labourers into his harveſt. I am glad your Excellency hath been honoured by providence, to put *New-Jerſey* college on ſuch a footing, that it may be a nurſery for future labourers. I have had the pleaſure of ſeeing Mr. *A*—— and Colonel *W*——, and have introduced them to ſuch of my friends, as I believe, under GOD, may ſerve the intereſt in which they are engaged. Glad ſhall I be of every opportunity offered me, of promoting the Redeemer's cauſe in *New-England* or *New-Jerſey*. By the divine bleſſing, I hope that ſomething conſiderable will be done in *England* and *Scotland* for *New-Jerſey* college. I wiſh your Excellency joy of the relation into which I hear you have lately entered. I hope my dutiful reſpects will find acceptance with Madam *Bel*——, and I earneſtly pray that you may live together as heirs of the grace of life. May GOD honour you both to bring forth much fruit in old age! Here I would end; but the love I owe to the bearer, Mr. *S*——, for CHRIST's ſake, conſtrains me to recommend him to your Excellency. He is I think an *Iſraelite* indeed. I

pray

pray the LORD JESUS to succeed and bless him. He can give your Excellency an account, how the work prospers on this side the water. That every wilderness in *America* may blossom like a rose, and that your Excellency's province may be like the garden of the LORD, is the hearty prayer of,

Your Excellency's most dutiful
but obliged humble servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXX.

To the Reverend Mr. H———.

Portsmouth, April 28, 1750.

My very dear friend and Brother,

YOUR letter should have had an immediate answer, if the least leisure had offered when in town. But there I am continually hurried, and had scarce time to eat bread. However, our LORD gave me meat which the world knows not of, and enabled me to preach three or four times a day to great multitudes, and I trust with great blessings. Fear not your weak body; we are immortal till our work is done. CHRIST's labourers must live by miracle; if not, I must not live at all; for GOD only knows what I daily endure. My continual vomitings almost kill me, and yet the pulpit is my cure, so that my friends begin to pity me less, and to leave off that ungrateful caution, "Spare thyself." I speak this to encourage you. Persons whose writings are to be blessings, must have some thorns in the flesh. Your disorders, like mine, I believe are as yet only to humble, not to kill us. Though I long to go to heaven, yet I am apt to think we are not to die presently, but live and declare the works of the LORD. You by your pen, I by my tongue. May the glorious *Emmanuel* bless us both! I believe he will. Courage, my dear, very dear Mr. *H*——; Courage. When we are weak, then are we strong. — But to your letter. I am glad Dr. *S*—— preaches, and that Mr. *H*——, is at work. In working we shall be blessed. To him that hath, shall be given. How shall we contrive to meet. I purpose being at *Oulney* next *Sunday* sevennight, and in a day or two after at *Northampton*. I wish I could have a line from you. In the mean while I shall endeavour to get Dr. *W*——. There is a glorious plan set on foot

by

by the Great and Good, for a college in the *New-Jerſies*; the particulars will ere long be publiſhed. I wiſh it much proſperity. Your Meditations are now printing in *Philadelphia*. Why do you not ſit for your picture?—The ſeed ſown here months ago, hath ſprung up. People hear with great attention. What cannot GOD do? The LORD be with you! I love you moſt tenderly. I thank you ten thouſand times for all favours, and am, very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately and eternally
in our dear LORD JESUS,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXXI.

To the Reverend Mr. D———.

My very dear Friend, *London, May* 1, 1750.

THOUGH I am ſomewhat fatigued with my journey, yet I cannot help anſwering your very kind and wiſhed-for letter. Bleſſed be the GOD and Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, who delights to multiply his benefits upon us! I wiſh you and dear Mrs. *D*—— joy of your twins. May JESUS ſanctify them from the womb, and ſpare them with their tender mother, to be laſting bleſſings to yourſelf and others! What ſhall I render unto the LORD for removing prejudices from *Taunton* people? It is his doing; and the ſame grace was ſhewn at *Portſmouth*, from whence I am juſt now come. I was there this time twelvemonth, and now had the pleaſure of hearing that many were then awakened, who hold on their way. Thouſands came to hear, and the word ſeemed to ſtrike like a pointed arrow. You have been miſinformed about *Moor-fields*. I have preached there twice lately to many thouſands, but without moleſtation. A bleſſed power attended the word, and we have had moſt delightful ſeaſons in *London*. Help me to cry Grace! grace! I am now going Northward, and hope next week to have another interview with Meſſrs. *H*——, *H*——*ly*, Dr. *D*——, and Dr. *S*——. I rejoice in the ſucceſs of the Doctor's books, and pray the LORD earneſtly to bleſs all his labours more and more. Poor Lady *H*——*n* is ill. I ſay of her, as I would to you, *ſerius in cœlum redeas!* You may direct to her Ladyſhip at *Aſhby-place*. I am glad to hear that your brethren begin to envy you;

you; It is a good ſign. You have heard of the viper and the file. Their biting will only make their own teeth to bleed. We are to go on. I pray GOD you may, and increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. I ſalute you and all your family. My wife joins, very dear Mr. *D*——, with

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXXII.

To Mr. C——.

Very dear Sir, *Aſhby, May* 11, 1750.

AS you talked when I left *London* of ſetting out on your journey in about a fortnight, I cannot help ſending you theſe few lines. I believe they will be acceptable, becauſe they acquaint you with the continuance of the Redeemer's loving kindneſs to the very chief of ſinners. At *Oulney*, where I preached laſt LORD's day, we had two ſweet ſeaſons. A great multitude attended, and I had the pleaſure of ſeeing ſome, that were wrought upon when I was there laſt. On the *Monday*, about ſix miles from *Northampton*, I had a private interview with Dr. *S*——, Dr. *D*——, Meſſrs. *H*—— and *H*——*ly*. On the *Tueſday* I preached in the morning to Dr. *D*——'s family, and in the afternoon to above two thouſand in the field. Dr. *S*——, Mr. *H*——, &c. attended me, and walked with me afterwards along the ſtreet; ſo that I hope the phyſician will now turn his back on the world, and be content to follow a deſpiſed crucified Redeemer without reſerve. I expounded at his houſe in the evening, and amhereafter to come to it as my own. On *Tueſday* I preached twice at *Kettering* to ſeveral thouſands. The people gladly received the word, and the Inn-keeper where I put up, I hope is a real chriſtian. On *Wedneſday* I came hither, and found good Lady *H*——, though very weak, yet better than I expected. I hope you will beg Mr. *G*——, and all GOD's people, to ſtrive together in their prayers, to keep her out of heaven as long as they can, that ſhe may do more good on earth. I greet you and Mrs. *C*—— moſt heartily, and wiſhing you a very proſperous journey, by the will of GOD, I am, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXXXIII.

To Doctor S——.

My Dear Doctor, *Ashby, May* 11, 1750.

HOW do you? I have thought of, and prayed for you much, since we parted from *Northampton*. Now I believe is the time in which the ax is to be laid at the very root of the tree. How wonderfully doth the LORD JESUS watch over you? How sweetly does he lead you out of temptation! O follow his leadings, my dear friend, and let every, even the most beloved *Isaac*, be immediately sacrificed for GOD. Kindness is cruelty here. Had *Abraham* consulted either *Sarah* or his affections, he never would have taken the knife to slay his son. GOD's law is our rule, and GOD will have all the heart or none. *Agags* will plead, but they must be hewn in pieces. May the LORD strengthen, stablish, and settle you! Good Lady *H——n* was much rejoiced to hear that you had been without the camp. May you quit yourself like a man, and in every respect behave like a good soldier of JESUS CHRIST! Her ladyship is very weak, but I hope will yet be spared to do much good on earth. O the happiness of giving up all for CHRIST, who hath given himself for us. The LORD be with you!

I am yours to command,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. M——.

Ashby, May 14, 1750.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Have desired to write you a long letter for a considerable time, but was so hurried when at *London*, that I could not be so explicit as the affair I wanted to write about, necessarily required. It is concerning the Presbyterian College in the *New Jersies*; the importance and extensive usefulness of which, I suppose you have long since been apprized of. Mr. *A——*, a friend of Governor *B——*, is come over with a commission to negotiate this matter; he hath brought with him a copy of a letter, which Mr. *P——* sent to you some months past. This

This letter hath been ſhewn to Doctor *D*—— and ſeveral of the *London* miniſters, who all approve of the thing, and promiſe their aſſiſtance. Laſt week I preached at *Northampton*, and converſed with Doctor *D*—— concerning it. The ſcheme that was then judged moſt practicable was this, "That Mr. *P*——'s letter ſhould be printed, and a recommendation of the affair, ſubſcribed by Doctor *D*—— and others, be annexed; that a ſubſcription and collections ſhould be then ſet on foot in *England*, and afterwards that Mr. *A*—— ſhould go to *Scotland*." I think it is an affair that requires diſpatch. Governor *B*—— is old, but a moſt hearty man for promoting GOD's glory, and the good of mankind. He looks upon the college as his own daughter, and will do all he can to endow her with proper privileges. The preſent Preſident Mr. *B*——, Burr and moſt of the Truſtees, I am well acquainted with. They are friends to vital piety, and I truſt this work of the LORD will proſper in their hands. The ſpreading of the goſpel in *Maryland* and *Virginia* in a great meaſure depends upon it, and therefore I wiſh them much ſucceſs in the name of the LORD. But more of this when we meet. As I am going further northward, I know not but I may go as far as *Glaſgow*. Indeed there are ſo many doors opened in *England*, that I know not well where to go firſt. I have lately been in *Cornwall*, at *Portſmouth*, and *London*.—Since that I have preached at *Oulney*, *Northampton* and *Kettering*. For a few days I have been at good Lady *H*——*n*'s, who though weak in body, is always abounding in the work of the LORD. She ſends you her kind compliments, and ordered me to beg the favour of you to acquaint Mr. *R*——, that ſhe will anſwer his kind letter as ſoon as ever her ſtrength will permit. I preach daily at her Ladyſhip's, and this week, GOD willing, I ſhall preach in two or three churches. My bodily health is better than uſual, and I long to be on the ſtretch for Him, who was ſtretched upon a curſed tree for ill and hell-deſerving me. I beg a continued intereſt in your prayers. I ſalute you and yours, Mr. *G*—— and his wife, and all dear friends, in the heartieſt manner, and am, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate brother, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXXXV.

To Doctor D——.

Ashby, May 19, 1750.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

YOUR kind letter found me happy at our good Lady *H——n*'s, whose path shines more and more bright unto the perfect day. She is strangely employed now.—Can you guess? The kind people of *Ashby* stirred up some of the baser sort to riot before her Ladyship's door, while the gospel was preaching; and on *Wednesday* evening, some people in their return home, narrowly escaped being murdered. Her Ladyship has just received a message from the Justice, in order to bring the offenders before him. I hope it will be over-ruled for great good, and that the gospel for the future will have free course. This week I have preached in three churches, and to-morrow morning, GOD willing, I am to preach at a fourth. In the evening I shall preach at *Nottingham*, and purpose lying at the house of Mr. *S——*. Thus, reverend and dear Sir, you see I lead a pilgrim life. Blessed be GOD, it is quite pleasant, and I humbly intreat you to pray, that I may have a pilgrim heart, and be kept from trimming or nestling even to my dying hour. I rejoice, dear Sir, that you was blest at *Kettering*. Gladly shall I call upon you again at *Northampton*, if the LORD spares my life; and in the mean while shall not fail to pray, that the work of our common LORD may more and more prosper in your hands. I thank you a thousand times for your kindness to the very chief of sinners, and assure you, reverend Sir, that the affection is reciprocal. Good Lady *H——* greatly esteems you. I go with regret from her Ladyship. Her Ladyship intends writing to you this evening. Do come and see her soon. I shall not be unmindful of your sick student. May the LORD JESUS sanctify all pain, and through his sufferings make him perfect. I would enlarge, but cannot. I write in great haste, but with greater love subscribe myself, reverend and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, obliged, though unworthy
younger brother and servant, for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXXXVI.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Nottingham, May* 21, 1750.

WITH regret I left your Ladyſhip; but I hope it was for the furtherance of the goſpel. At *Radcliff* church, the divine influence was greater than at *Millburn*. I preached on theſe words, "But one thing is needful." Many were impreſſed deeply. After ſermon I converſed with Mrs. *B*—— and Mr. *Law*'s ſiſter. The latter ſeems to be under awakenings, and the former in her firſt love. She carries high ſail; our LORD knows how to put in proper ballaſt. In the morning I preached here to many thouſands. I had a great cold, but the LORD ſtrengthened me. This evening, GOD willing, I preach again, and to-morrow ſhall ſet off for *Mansfield*, where a friend has invited me to his houſe. What care does our LORD take of his poor pilgrims! As I go on, your Ladyſhip ſhall hear how I am dealt with. I know it will be bountifully, becauſe I have got ſuch a bountiful maſter. He will bleſs your Ladyſhip more and more. When Mr. *B*—— comes, I ſhall be glad to hear what becomes of the rioters. A line may be ſent to *Mancheſter*. O that your Ladyſhip may live to ſee many of thoſe *Aſhby* ſtones become children to *Abraham!* I truſt you will. I write in great haſte, but with reſpect and gratitude greater than I can expreſs; and beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, very honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXXVII.

To Dr. S———.

My dear Doctor, *Mansfield, May* 24, 1750.

YOURS found me juſt as I was about to leave good Lady *H*———. Ever ſince, I have been engaged in travelling and preaching the everlaſting goſpel. In *Radcliff* church, at *Nottingham*, and *Sutton*, our LORD's Spirit hath accompanied the word preached. This morning I preached here, and, GOD willing, purpoſe to do ſo again in the evening, and to-morrow.

to-morrow morning. Little was expected here but rudeneſs; however the auditory was large and attentive. What cannot the Redeemer do? I am quite ſorry that Mr. *H*——'s letter was printed:—But it was no Methodiſt that publiſhed it. *Felix quem faciunt aliena pericula cautum.* I pray GOD to give my dear friend prudence and courage whilſt he is in *London*. Remember, if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off;—if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out and caſt it from thee. Now is your time to ſacrifice your *Iſaac*. CHRIST will have all the heart or none. I write thus, becauſe I love you dearly. I pray for you from my inmoſt ſoul. O that you may be kept as in a garriſon, by GOD's mighty power, through faith unto ſalvation! Without CHRIST you can do nothing. *Nil deſperandum Chriſto duce.* That he may ſtrengthen you to do what you know to be his will, is the hearty prayer of, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXXVIII.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *Mansfield, May* 24, 1750.

I Beg leave on my journey, to trouble your Ladyſhip with a few lines. They bring your Ladyſhip good news. I have been quite ſick ever ſince I have left *Aſhby*; but the glorious *Emmanuel* has been pleaſed to work by my unworthy miniſtry. At *Nottingham* ſeveral came to me, enquiring what they ſhould do to be ſaved. I preached there four times. One evening Lord *S*—— and ſeveral gentlemen were preſent, and behaved with great decency. Many thouſands attended. Yeſterday morning I breakfaſted with three diſſenting miniſters and Mr. *P*——'s, who told me that Lady *P*—— deſired he would preſs me to preach at *B*—— church. Yeſterday in the afternoon I preached at *Sutton*, and this morning I lifted up the goſpel ſtandard here. All was quiet; and this evening and to-morrow morning I am to preach again. As I travel on, your Ladyſhip ſhall hear. I muſt lie down to refreſh this weary body: my ſoul, through grace, ſmiles at bodily weakneſs, and longs to take its flight. I doubt not but your

Ladyſhip is happy in him, who alone killeth and maketh alive. Night and day do I look up to him in behalf of your Ladyſhip, as being, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obedient, obliged,
and chearful ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXXXIX.

To the Counteſs D——.

Honoured Madam, *Leeds, May* 30, 1750.

I Heard about a week ago, that your Ladyſhip was exceeding ill. I have been much concerned ever ſince, and have attempted to write more than once, but travelling and preaching twice a day prevented me. Ere now I truſt the great phyſician has rebuked your Ladyſhip's indiſpoſition, and given you to rejoice in his great ſalvation. If not, his grace will be ſufficient for you. He will not ſuffer you to be tempted above what you are able to bear, but will with the temptation make a way for you to eſcape. Sanctified afflictions are ſigns of his eſpecial love. Love holds the rod, love ſtrikes, love wounds, and love heals again. "Strike, LORD; (ſays *Luther*) now I know thou art my father."—And, ſays that ſweet ſinger Mr. *Maſon*,

——— *O happy rod,*
That brought me nearer to my GOD.

This, I believe, will be the language of your Ladyſhip's heart. Look, therefore, honoured Madam, to JESUS, the author and finiſher of your faith. In all your afflictions, he is afflicted. He will bring you out of this furnace, like gold purified ſeven times in the fire. Good Lady *H*——— is weak too, but I truſt will yet live to declare the works of the LORD. *Aſhby* is not worthy of ſo rich a pearl. Was I not afraid of hurting your Ladyſhip, I would give you ſome particulars of my circuit. Let it ſuffice to inform your Ladyſhip, that the goſpel plough ſeems to proſper. New ground has been broken up, and ſeed ſown, that I truſt will bear fruit to life eternal. I am here amongſt a multitude of ſouls that ſeem to love the

LORD JESUS in sincerity. To-morrow I move *Northward*; and if I hear that your Ladyship is recovered, I shall take the freedom of writing now and then. I purpose sending a few lines also to Lady *F*—— and Lady *H*——. All were constantly remembered at *Ashby* at the holy table. All shall still be remembered, as our LORD enables, by, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged and ready servant,
for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXL.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Leeds, May* 30, 1750.

I Cannot travel far without sitting down to refresh myself by writing to your Ladyship. *Mansfield* I hope was taken. After leaving that place, I went to *Rotheram*, where *Satan* rallied his forces again. However, I preached twice, on the *Friday* evening, and *Saturday* morning. The cryer was employed to give notice of a bear-baiting. Your Ladyship may guess who was the *Bear*. About seven in the morning the drum was heard, and several watermen attended it with great staves. The constable was struck, and two of the mobbers were apprehended, but rescued afterwards. But all this does not come up to the kind usage of the people of *Ashby*. I preached on those words, "Fear not, little flock."—They were both fed and feasted; and after a short stay I left *Rotheram*, when I knew it was become more pacific. In the evening I preached at *Sheffield*, where the people received the word gladly. A very great alteration was discernable in their looks since I was there last. On *Sunday* great multitudes attended, and in the evening many went away that could not come near enough to hear. On *Monday* we had a parting blessing; and in the evening the LORD JESUS fed us plentifully, with the bread that cometh down from heaven, at *Barly-Hall*. Last night I preached to many, many thousands, and this morning also at five o'clock. Methinks I am now got into another climate. It must be a warm one, where there are so many of GOD's people. Our Pentecost is to be kept at Mr. *G*——'s. I have seen him and Mr. *J*——, and hear

hear that Mr. *B*—— died comfortably, being fully assured, "That not only all his sins before, but after conversion were forgiven him." To-morrow, GOD willing, I move hence, and expect to-morrow evening to see Mrs. *H*——, and to reach *Manchester* next week. From thence I purpose writing to your Ladyship again. O that any thing I write, say, or do, may afford the least comfort to your Ladyship's soul! This is my desire and hearty prayer: and I earnestly entreat the LORD, that you may live long, and prosper in soul and body. I send my usual and most dutiful respects to the honourable ladies, and am ever, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged and ready servant
for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLI.

To Lady H——.

Honoured Madam, *Manchester, June* 8, 1750.

I Thought to have troubled your Ladyship with a letter long before this time, but travelling, and preaching twice every day, prevented. Blessed be GOD, it is pleasant work, and I trust it hath prospered in my unworthy hands. Thousands and thousands for some time past have flocked to hear the word twice every day, and the power of GOD has attended it in a glorious manner. Good Lady *H*——*n* I left some time ago weak in body, but strong in the grace which is in CHRIST JESUS. The good people of *Ashby* were so kind as to mob round her Ladyship's door, whilst the gospel was preaching. Alas! how great and irreconcileable is the enmity of the serpent! This is my comfort, "The seed of the woman shall at length be more than conqueror over all." I hope that your Ladyship every day experiences more and more of this conquest in your heart. This is the christian's daily employ; this the believer's daily triumph, to die to self and sin, and to rise more and more daily into the image of the blessed JESUS. As it is our duty, so it is our unspeakable privilege. All the crosses we meet with, all the afflictions with which we are visited, are all intended by the good physician, to beat down, and keep under, and weaken the old man,

and to raiſe up, ſtrengthen, and give freſh vigour to the new man, which is created after GOD in righteouſneſs and true holineſs. Our buſineſs is to look continually to JESUS, and to lean on him hourly, nay every moment. May this be your Ladyſhip's continual employ! May the LORD JESUS ſtrengthen, ſtabliſh, and ſettle you more and more in his love. May he give you to ſee your honoured Relations partakers of a divine nature in this world, and grant you manſions of eternal bliſs in the world to come! No leſs mercies ſhall, no greater can be deſired for your Ladyſhip and family by, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt obliged and ready ſervant
for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLII.

To Mr. C——.

Roſindale (Lancaſhire), June 14, 1750.

Very dear Sir,

EVER ſince that I heard your journey into the country was deferred, I have been impatient to write you a line. Till now, I cannot ſay I have had a proper opportunity. Travelling, and preaching twice a day, as I generally do, is almoſt too much for my frail tabernacle. But he is faithful who hath promiſed, "That as our day is, ſo our ſtrength ſhall be." Though faint, I am yet purſuing, and, glory be to GOD, hitherto I have had a moſt delightful and ſucceſsful circuit. I ſuppoſe you have heard of my reception at *Northampton* and *Aſhby*, and of that people's unkind treatment of good Lady *H*——. At *Nottingham* I lodged with Mr. *S*——, and in that place and ſeveral others found great ſucceſs. In *Yorkſhire* the work hath advanced moſt. In about a week's time, within the compaſs of twenty miles, I preached, I believe, to above ſix thouſand ſouls. This laſt week I have been beating up for recruits in and about *Mancheſter*, and I truſt ſome have liſted. Mrs. *G*—— behaves like a good ſoldier; and if I am not miſtaken, her huſband will follow her good example. I am now going towards *Kendal*, then to *Whitehaven*, and it may be to *Scotland*. I know you will pray, that the hand of the LORD may be with me. That is all in all! I hope this will find

my

my dear friend quite busy for his GOD, even his GOD in CHRIST. We have not a moment to be idle here; the Judge is before the door. I want to have my lamp trimmed, and my loins girt, and to be always habitually and actually ready to meet the blessed Bridegroom. Then do we begin to live like ourselves, and to act like those who are redeemed unto GOD by the precious blood of JESUS CHRIST, and made kings and priests unto GOD and his Father; to him be glory and dominion now and for evermore. My dear Sir, my cold heart is warmed when I think of this. O why am I not a flame of fire? Why am I not all life, all love, all humility, all zeal? O my naughty heart! May JESUS sprinkle it afresh with his precious blood, and help me this morning to begin to hunt for souls. Though aged, I wish you may be employed in the same work before you die. But future things belong to GOD. I must now bid you adieu. My cordial love and respects await Mrs. *C*——, Mr. *G*——, and all enquiring friends. Continue to pray for, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLIII.

To Lady H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Newby-Cote, June* 16, 1750.

IT is late, and I am somewhat fatigued, but I cannot rest without finishing my week's work in writing to your Ladyship. Blessed be GOD, I have still good news to send to your Ladyship. All was quiet at *Manchester*; and I humbly hope the Redeemer will gather to himself a people there. Kind Captain *G*—— and his lady will acquaint your Ladyship with particulars. I hope he will prove a good soldier of JESUS CHRIST. I advised him to send your Ladyship word of their coming to *Ashby*, that they might be directed the best road from *Derby*. We had sweet seasons at the places adjacent to *Manchester*. Only at *Balton* a drunkard stood up to preach behind me, and a woman attempted twice to stab the person that was putting up a stand for me to preach on, in her husband's field. However, the LORD got himself the victory. Since that, we have had very large and powerful meetings,

where formerly were the most violent outrages. Perhaps within these three weeks, sixty-thousand souls or upwards have heard the gospel. I am now in Mr. *J*——'s circuit, and purpose being at *Kendal* next *Thursday*. I hope that there, or at *Whitehaven*, where I am to preach to-morrow se'nnight, I shall hear from Mr. *B*—— concerning your Ladyship's welfare.—His letter I received to-night, and will answer it the first opportunity. Nature now calls for rest. I shall retire, praying that your Ladyship and honoured relations may be blessed with all spiritual blessings. I am a sink of sin and corruption; but JESUS comforts and supports me, and, I believe, will hear your Ladyship's prayers in behalf of one, who, next to being a poor despised minister of the glorious *Emmanuel*, thinks it his highest honour to subscribe himself,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged, and very ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

June 17th, seven in the morning.

Honoured Madam,

THIS last night Satan hath shewed his teeth. Some persons got into the barn and stable, and have cut my chaise, and one of the horse's tails. What would men do, if they could? The LORD be with your spirit. *Amen.*

LETTER DCCCXLIV.

To the Rev. Mr. H——.

Kendal, June 21, 1750.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Guess this will find you returned from good Lady *H——n*, with whom undoubtedly you have taken sweet counsel, and been mightily refreshed in talking about the things which belong to the kingdom of GOD. This leaves me at *Kendal*, where I arrived this morning, and where, GOD willing, I shall preach the everlasting gospel this evening. An entrance is now made into *Westmoreland*; and pen cannot well describe what glorious scenes have opened in *Yorkshire*, &c. Perhaps since I saw you, seventy or eighty thousand have attended the word preached in divers places. At *Howarth*, on *Whitsunday*, the

the church was almoſt thrice filled with communicants, and at *Kirby-Steven* the people behaved exceedingly well. It was a precious ſeaſon. In my way I have read Mr. *Law*'s ſecond part of *The Spirit of Prayer*. His ſcheme about the Fall, &c. I think is quite chimerical; but he ſays many things that are truly noble, and which I pray GOD to write upon the tables of my heart. Several things at the end of his treatiſe on regeneration, in my opinion, are entirely unjuſtifiable: but the ſun hath its ſpots, and ſo have the beſt of men. I want to ſee my own faults more, and others leſs. It will be ſo, when I am more humble. If mercies would make a creature humble, I ſhould be a mirror of humility. But I am far from the mind that was in JESUS. You muſt pray, whilſt I go on fighting. Though faint, I would yet purſue. Next week I hope to reach *Edinburgh*. GOD willing, you ſhall have notice of my return. Glad ſhall I be to meet ſuch a friend upon the road. May the friend of ſinners bleſs and ſupport you, and give you always an heart to pray for, reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLV.

To the Rev. Mr. B——.

Kendal, June 21, 1750.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

ON *Saturday* laſt I received your kind letter, but have not had an opportunity of anſwering it till now. I have been preaching the goſpel amongſt the poor knitters, whoſe ſimple manner of life pleaſed me much. I am glad you have ſounded the ſilver trumpet in *London*; *creſcit eundo* muſt be your motto, and mine. There is nothing like keeping the wheels oil'd by action. The more we do, the more we may do; every act ſtrengthens the habit: and the beſt preparation for preaching on *Sundays*, is to preach every day in the week. I am glad you have peace at *Aſhby*. What a fool is Satan always to overſhoot his mark! I hope that Mr. *G*——, as well as Mr. *S*——, will hold on. They will be glorious monuments of free grace indeed. I am like-minded with you in reſpect to the Doctor's comment; he is indeed a glorious

writer. May the LORD JESUS ſtrengthen him to finiſh the work! My dear Mr. *B*——, what bleſſed opportunities do you enjoy for meditation, ſtudy, and prayer! Now is your time to get rich in grace, to ſearch into the depths of divine love, and the myſtery of iniquity hid in your own heart. Such an example, and ſuch advantages no one in *England* is favoured with but yourſelf. I do not envy you; but I pray the Redeemer, from my inmoſt ſoul, to ſanctify your ſituation, and give you to increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. I am called forth to battle; remember a poor cowardly ſoldier, and beg the Captain of our ſalvation, that I may have the honour to die fighting. I would have all my ſcars in my breaſt. Methinks I would not be wounded running away, or ſkulking into an hiding-place. It is not for miniſters of CHRIST to flee or be afraid.—And yet alas!—Well—*Nil deſperandum Chriſto duce.* For his great name's ſake, I ſubſcribe myſelf, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged friend and brother,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLVI.

To the Counteſs of H———n.

Honoured Madam, *Kendal, June* 26, 1750.

STILL (O amazing love!) the LORD of all lords vouchſafes to proſper the goſpel plough. Such an entrance hath been made into *Kendal*, as could not have been expected. I preached twice to ſeveral thouſands laſt week, and the people were ſo importunate, that I was prevailed on to return hither again laſt night. The congregation was greatly increaſed, and the power of the LORD was diſplayed in the midſt of them. On *Saturday* evening, and on the Lord's-day, I preached at *Ulverſton*, a town about ſixteen miles diſtant from this. There Satan made ſome ſmall reſiſtance; a clergyman, who looked more like a butcher than a miniſter, came with two others and charged a conſtable with me; but I never ſaw a poor creature ſent off in ſuch diſgrace. Good I believe was done in the town. To the giver of every good gift be all the glory! Thus, honoured Madam, a poor pilgrim goes on. How I am to ſucceed at *Whitehaven*, your Ladyſhip ſhall know here-

hereafter. GOD willing, I set forward after preaching this evening. I hear Mr. *W*—— has been much abused in *Ireland*, but that the Mayor of *Cork* hath quite overshot himself. I have some thoughts of seeing *Ireland* before my return. May the LORD direct my goings in his way! I am persuaded that this will find your Ladyship travelling apace towards *Canaan*, and increasing your reward daily. Great shall it be indeed in heaven.—I shall be extremely glad of the honour of a line when at *Edinburgh*. In the mean while, your Ladyship shall not fail, with your honoured sisters and family, of being prayed for, and hearing from, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged,
and very chearful servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLVII.

To Mr. K——.

My dear Mr. K——, *Kendal, June 26, 1750.*

YESTERDAY I read in the public papers, that you was married. This morning I sit down to wish you joy. GOD hath given you a choice help-mate. May you love her as JESUS CHRIST loveth the church; and may both of you be enabled to live together as heirs of the grace of life! The LORD of all lords has been daily pouring down his benefits on you and me. O that his goodness may lead us to repentance, and his love constrain us to obedience! You have now another blessing given you; one who, I believe, will strengthen your hands in the LORD, and stir you up in the good ways of GOD. Now for *Joshua*'s resolution, "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." You are now entered on a new state; you will want new supplies of grace. It is hard to govern; it is much easier to obey. To come into a flow of business, and at the same time to keep the heart near to GOD, what a task is this? JESUS alone can make you sufficient for it. Look then, my dear friend, continually to him, and take heed that nothing drowns the sound of this small still voice speaking in your heart. When I come to town, GOD willing, I will pay you a visit. In the mean while let us meet at the throne of grace. I am travelling, and

you

you trading, for JESUS CHRIST. His ſtrength is my joy. Every where the goſpel plough hath proſpered. Theſe *Northern* parts promiſe well. Adieu! The LORD be with you both! Pray remember me in the kindeſt manner to your mother and brothers. You are come into a family that I dearly love. That you all may ſit down with the glorious family of the firſt-born, whoſe names are written in heaven, is the earneſt prayer of, my dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLVIII.

To Mr. B——.

Whitehaven, June 29, 1750.

My dear Mr. B——,

YESTERDAY, upon my arrival hither, I received your kind letter, and am now ſeated to ſend you an anſwer. May the LORD JESUS cauſe it to be an anſwer of peace! You need make no apology for your openneſs and freedom; reſerves to me are odious. I would willingly be a father, brother, and friend to all concerned with me; and conſequently I would gladly bear a part with them in their ſorrows and their joys. Your ſuſpicions about Meſſrs. *S*——, *G*——, and *N*——, were groundleſs. The ſole cauſe of your not hearing from me, was my not knowing where to direct to you. As I am utterly unconcerned in the diſcipline of Mr. *W*——'s ſocieties, I can be no competent judge of their affairs. If you and the reſt of the preachers were to meet together more frequently, and tell each other your grievances, opinions, &c. it might be of ſervice. This may be done in a very friendly way, and thereby many uneaſineſſes might be prevented. After all, thoſe that will live in peace muſt agree to diſagree in many things with their fellow-labourers, and not let little things part or diſunite them. I know not well, what my dear Mr. *B*—— means, about concealing the goſpel privileges. There is no doubt but milk muſt be given to babes, and meat to ſtrong men; but this all depends on the ſkilfulneſs of the preacher, and his being taught of GOD rightly to divide the word of truth. In general, goſpel privileges may be

ſpoken

ſpoken of to encourage awakened ſinners and quicken ſaints. If by goſpel privileges you mean *love-feaſts*, *bands*, &c. theſe I think are only prudential means, and therefore no doubt prudence ſhould be exerciſed in the uſe of them. I am of your opinion, that too much familiarity in theſe things is hurtful. But it is hard to keep a medium, where a multitude is concerned. As ill effects are diſcovered, they ſhould be corrected and avoided. The queſtion and anſwer you refer to, I do not like. I know nothing of CHRIST's righteouſneſs being imputed to all mankind. It is enough to ſay with the ſcriptures, "That it is imputed to all believers." What does my dear Mr. *B*—— think of that aſſertion of the Apoſtle, "He made him ſin for us, who knew no ſin, that we might be made the righteouſneſs of GOD in him." And again, "Who of GOD is made to us, wiſdom, righteouſneſs, &c." *cum multis aliis*, vide Romans, ivth and vith.—Is it not as expreſs as can be, that CHRIST's righteouſneſs is imputed to believers? Conſequently, it is ſufficient for us, as preachers, to declare, "That all believers are actually delivered from the guilt of both actual and original ſin, from the power of their corruptions here, and that at the hour of death they ſhall be delivered from the very in-being of ſin, and be admitted to dwell with the glorious JESUS, and the ſpirits of juſt men made perfect, hereafter." Another ſeven years experience, will teach ſome to handle the word of life in a better manner. Our buſineſs is to ſhew believers their compleatneſs in CHRIST, and to point them to Him for ſtrength for every good word and work; and all to be done out of gratitude and love for what he hath done and ſuffered for them. But you know my ſentiments; you have heard them all in my ſermons. I have no reſerves. What Mr. *S*—— ſays, I know not; I believe CHRIST's redemption will be applied to all that ſhall believe. Who theſe are, we know not, and therefore we are to give a general offer and invitation; convinced of this, that every man's damnation is of himſelf, and every man's ſalvation all of GOD. You would do well to read more; but whether it would be beſt for you to purſue, or re-aſſume your old ſtudies, unleſs you are determined to ſettle, I cannot tell. Reading a *Latin* author, a little every day, to be ſure could do you no hurt. *Terentius Chriſtianus*, *Caſtalio*'s Scripture Dialogues, and *Selectæ Prælectiones Veteri Teſtamenti*

Teſtamenti, would both delight and profit you. It has long ſince been my judgment, that it would be beſt for many of the preſent preachers to have a tutor, and retire for a while, and be content with preaching now and then, till they were a little more improved. Otherwiſe, I fear many who now make a temporary figure, for want of a proper foundation, will run themſelves out of breath, will grow weary of the work, and leave it. May the LORD JESUS direct! This is the plan I purpoſe to purſue abroad. Whether GOD will be pleaſed to ſucceed it, I know not. All I can ſay is, that I am willing to lend an helping hand wherever I ſee the intereſt of CHRIST promoted. This is my motive, dear Sir, in anſwering your laſt. I hope it is ſatisfactory. If not, let me know. You may direct for me at Mr. *T*——'s, *Edinburgh*. I hope to be there next week. We have had good ſeaſons ſince I parted from you. At *Kendal* a moſt promiſing door is opened. Follow me with your prayers. — Look up to JESUS, and let not little things diſappoint and move you. If this be your foible, beware, and pray that Satan may not get an advantage over you. He will be always ſtriving to vex and unhinge you. "The LORD reigneth." Let this conſideration ſupport and comfort you, under the various changes you muſt neceſſarily meet with in the church. She is now militant, ere long ſhe ſhall be triumphant. Till then, as the elect of GOD, let us put on bowels of compaſſion, meekneſs, long-ſuffering and humbleneſs of mind. But what am I doing? Adieu. The LORD be with you and yours, and give Mrs. *B*—— faith and courage in her approaching hour! All with me ſalute you. I muſt haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf, my dear Mr. *B*——,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLIX.

To Mr. T—— A——.

Very dear T——, *Edinburgh, July 7, 1750.*

I Thought it long, yea very long ſince I heard from you; but as I believe your heart is upright towards the LORD JESUS, and to me your unworthy friend, for his great name's ſake, I have been quite eaſy. The news of your ſucceſs, rejoices me. May the LORD increaſe it more and more! Pen

cannot well express what hath been done in the North. I have preached above ninety times since I left *London*, and perhaps to a hundred and forty thousand people. It is amazing to see how people are prepared, in places where I never was before. What shall I render unto the LORD? I will beg him to make me humble and thankful. Here, I am received with as much affection as ever. Still I will cry, Grace! grace! Ere this reaches you, I suppose you will be thinking of *London*. Mr. *C*—— I believe wants a breathing. I hear he hath been blest much. You and Mr. *C*—— are the only persons I chuse to have at the tabernacle, as heads in my absence. Several of —— have offered to join me; but you know I hate taking other persons as helpers, and as I desire no party, I give no encouragement. But future things belong to Him, on whose shoulders the government is put. You must still remember me before Him. His word is indeed running, and like to be glorified day by day. How matters go on here, you will know hereafter. In the mean while pray for, and write to, my very dear *Tommy*,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCL.

To Lady H——.

Edinburgh, July 7, 1750.

Ever-honoured Madam;

AFTER preaching at *Cockermouth*, and near *Wigton*, with great acceptance, last night I came here, and was received in a most loving and tender manner. At noon, I dined with a family that honours your Ladyship very much, and this evening I have been preaching to a great multitude of very attentive and affected hearers. At my return to my lodgings, I had the wished-for pleasure of your Ladyship's two letters. They both led me nearer to, and laid me lower before Him, at whose throne I am daily pleading for the welfare of your Ladyship, both in temporals and spirituals. Indeed, ever honoured Madam, I have confidence with you that your Ladyship shall have all the deliverance you long for. By divine grace, I will let the LORD have no rest, till he fulfils all your desires. I quite forget myself, when I think of

of your Ladyship. Ever honoured Madam, the LORD as yet hath but begun to bless you; you shall, you shall, you will be made a greater blessing indeed. If dear Mr. *H*—— gets *A*——*y*, that will be making your Ladyship a blessing. He is a dear soul; I am glad that both he and Dr. *D*—— have been with your Ladyship. I would have all the good ministers come and visit your Ladyship. There are numbers would go scores of miles willingly for that purpose. I hope soon to send your Ladyship some pleasing particulars. I have heard from my family. May the blessing of many ready to perish descend on your Ladyship. I pity poor *A*—— *B*——. Your Ladyship I believe will soon get the better of him. Your Ladyship hath acted like yourself in forgiving the offenders. Such offences come, that CHRIST's followers may give evidence of his blessed temper being wrought in their hearts. In my return, without fail your Ladyship may expect me at ungrateful *Ashby*. Out of those stones may the LORD JESUS raise up children unto *Abraham!* However GOD is pleased to deal with me, your Ladyship may be assured of hearing from me. In the mean while, your Ladyship and honoured relations and family will be continually remembered by, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, ready, obliged,
though unworthy servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLI.

To Lady H——.

Edinburgh, July 12, 1750.

Ever-honoured Madam,

THOUGH I am really burning with a fever, and have a violent cold, yet I must send your Ladyship a few lines by this post. They bring good news. People flock rather more than ever, and earnestly entreat me not to leave them soon. I preach generally twice a day,—early in the morning, and at six in the evening. Great multitudes attend. Praise the LORD O my soul! Your Ladyship's health is drank and enquired after every day. Mr. *N*——, who married Lord ———'s sister, has given me three franks, and his family are in the number of those who are left in *Sardis*, and have

have not defiled their garments. Enclosed your Ladyship hath my last from *Carolina*, and an account of the affair mentioned by the Bishop of *Cork*. I fear I cannot reach *Ireland* this season. Your Ladyship's message to Mr. *Robe*, I sent last post; he will think himself highly honoured. Some time next month I hope to see your Ladyship. In the mean time, whether sick or well, your Ladyship shall be sure to hear how the LORD of all Lords is pleased to deal with me and his people. His presence makes me to smile at pain, and the fire of his love burns up all fevers whatsoever. This your Ladyship knows by happy experience. That you may know it more and more every hour, and every moment, is the continual prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged and
chearful servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLII.

To Mr. C———.

Dear Jemmy, *Glasgow, July* 21, 1750.

I Have nothing but good news to send you. The entrance GOD has been pleased to give me into *Scotland*, demands the highest tribute of gratitude and love. I preached twenty times at *Edinburgh*, and thousands attended morning and evening. Many I hope got good. To the giver of every good gift be all the glory! Last night I came hither, and was most lovingly received, and this morning the LORD of all Lords hath given us a delightful meeting. Blessed news is sent from *Kendal*. Enclosed you have the marks of my friends bounty, who love me for JESUS sake. Be pleased to receive the bill, and as you live near Mr. *S*——, be so kind as to pay him the remainder of what is due for printing my last sermons. Take his accompt, and a receipt under; what is left, pray give to my wife to pay *Wr*—— the book-binder. For I would fain owe no man any thing but love.—I would have my worldly affairs so ordered, that let death come when it will, I may have nothing to do but to die. That is a blessed word to me; the thoughts of death gladden my heart, and cause me often almost to leap for joy. But perhaps our LORD has more work for me to do. His will be done in, by, and upon me,

in time, and to all eternity. Pilgrims must not expect much rest here. In heaven we shall have enough. There I shall meet you and yours. I salute you both most tenderly, and beg you would all pray for, my dear friend,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLIII.

To Mr. R——.

Glasgow, July 23, 1750.

My very dear Friend,

WITH pleasure I sit down to perform my promise, and to thank you for all favours. The LORD is still adding to my obligations, to love and serve him. Friends here received me most kindly, and the congregations I think are rather larger than ever. Yesterday, besides preaching twice in the field, I preached in the college *Kirk*, being forced by Mr. *G*——. 'Twas a blessed season. Mr. *R*—— and Mr. *E*—— were very affectionate. I have met, and shaken hands with Mr. *R*—— *E*——. O when shall GOD's people learn war no more! GOD willing, I shall leave *Glasgow* on *Thursday* next, and if you please, will sup quietly with you and your lady, or with Mr. *G*——, on *Friday* evening. I hope to be in early, because I intend lying at Mr. *E*——'s house, or at *Kylsyth* on the *Thursday*. Letters this post make me resolve not to visit *Ireland* this summer; Mr. *W*—— is there, and persecution increases. I send the inclosed open. A copy might be put into my wife's, lest the other should miscarry. My stay in *Edinburgh* at my return must be very short. May the LORD JESUS make it sweet! You must remember me in the kindest manner to your dear lady, the other ladies, and all enquiring friends, and accept of most hearty love from, my very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCLIV.

To Mr. W——.

Dear Sir, *Glaſgow, July* 23, 1750.

I Received your kind letter laſt week, but till now had not time to anſwer you. Bleſſed be GOD, it brought glad tidings. Thanks be to the ever-loving ever-lovely JESUS, for cauſing his arrows to ſtick faſt in any ſinners hearts! May he that hath wounded, in his own due time and way heal and eaſe them!—He is the awakened ſinners only refuge. To Him the weary and heavy laden are invited. Let them but come to him, and he will, indeed he will give them reſt. O that thoſe who have begun to put their hands to the plough, may be kept from looking back! Awakening times are like ſpring times. Many bloſſoms, but not always ſo much fruit. However, glory, glory be to GOD, that the Winter of deadneſs is in ſome degree over, and that a Spring time of grace is ſeen at *Kendal*. Pray remember me in the kindeſt manner to all under awakenings, and exhort them all with full purpoſe of heart to cleave unto the LORD. Whether I can ſee you again in my return, is uncertain. If it be any way practicable, I ſhall comply with your earneſt ſolicitation. Next week, GOD willing, I leave *Scotland*, and if I can come, you ſhall hear from me. In the mean time, as the LORD enables, I ſhall not ceaſe to pray for all that are ſetting their faces Zionward. You know the many turnings that lie in the way thither, and therefore can direct young travellers. It is pretty work for you in the decline of life. Methinks you may be ſurprized like *Sarah*, who ſaid, "who would have thought that *Sarah* ſhould have given ſuck!" But is there any thing too hard for the LORD? O for faith, patience and humility! Theſe are graces my ſoul thirſts after. How humble, how thankful ought I to be! After leaving *Kendal*, the word of the LORD ran and was glorified in ſeveral places, and in *Scotland* I think congregations are rather greater than ever. You muſt exhort all to pray for me, that I may be kept from flagging in the latter ſtages of my road. My love to Mr. *G*——. I ſhall take care to anſwer his letter when it comes to hand. I have ordered ſome volumes of my ſermons to be ſent to him. May GOD ſanctify the reading of them to the

carrying on his bleſſed work. I can now no more. The LORD be with you. I am, dear Sir,

Yours, &c. in JESUS CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLV.

To Lady H———.

Edinburgh, July 29, 1750.

Ever-honoured Madam,

WHAT ſhall I ſay? Your Ladyſhip's condeſcenſion in writing to unworthy me, lays me low before Him, who continues to follow me with his goodneſs and mercy every hour of my life. Ungrateful *Aſhby!* O that thou kneweſt the day of thy viſitation! Surely your Ladyſhip may ſhake off the duſt of your feet againſt them. This was the command, that the meek and lowly JESUS gave to his apoſtles, when the goſpel was not received. And he himſelf departed, when the *Gadarenes* deſired him to go out of their coaſts. This juſtifies your Ladyſhip in removing Mr. *B*——. What avails throwing pearls before ſwine, who only turn again and rend you? However, I bleſs GOD that your Ladyſhip's houſe is made a *Bethel.* Glad would I be of the honour of joining your Ladyſhip's little ſelect company, but our Redeemer appoints me other work.—Indeed it is very pleaſant work. No one can well deſcribe the order, attention, and earneſtneſs of the *Scotch* congregations. They are unwearied in hearing the goſpel. I left thouſands ſorrowful at *Glaſgow*, and here I was again moſt gladly received laſt night. By preaching always twice, and once thrice, and once four times in a day, I am quite weakened; but I hope to recruit again, and get freſh ſtrength to work for Him, who ſhed his precious blood for ill and hell-deſerving me. On *Thurſday* next, GOD willing, I ſhall leave *Scotland.* Your Ladyſhip ſhall know whither I go. In the mean while, I ſend your Ladyſhip ſome *Georgia* letters, which I hope will afford you ſatisfaction. I have been upon the enquiry for ſome proper perſons, for dear Captain *G*—— and his Lady to converſe with at *Dumfries*, and laſt night I hear I have ſucceeded. Particulars they ſhall know hereafter. I can now only ſend them my moſt grateful and cordial reſpects, being obliged to ſtop to get ſtrength even whilſt I

write this. O this mortal body! How does it weigh down my precious and immortal soul! Ere long it will be set at liberty, and body and soul shall be for ever with the LORD. I cannot enlarge. Your Ladyship is remembered every day by many here. I hope your Ladyship's honoured sisters are prospering in soul and body. The searcher of hearts can tell how much I count it my honour to subscribe myself, ever-honoured Madam,

Their and your most obliged, dutiful, and chearful servant for JESUS CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLVI.

To Lady H———.

Honoured Madam, *Berwick, Aug.* 4, 1750.

AT length I have taken a very sorrowful leave of *Scotland.* The longer I continued there, the more the congregations, and the power that attended the word, increased. I have reason to think that many are under convictions, and am assured of hundreds having received great benefit and consolation. The parting was rather more affectionate than ever, and I shall have reason to bless GOD to all eternity for this last visit to *Scotland.* Not a dog moved his tongue all the while I was there, and many enemies where glad to be at peace with me. Who is like our GOD, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, continually doing wonders! Preaching so frequently, and paying so many religious visits, weakened me very much; but I am already much better for my riding thus far, and I trust the LORD will cause me to renew my strength. My obligations to spend and be spent for the blessed JESUS, are greatly increased. O that I may spring afresh, and soar aloft till I fly into the embraces of a sin-forgiving GOD! He hath prepared my way at *Berwick.* One of the ministers hath sent me an offer of his pulpit, and I hear of about ten more round this town that would do the same. I came hither this evening, and purpose, GOD willing, to set out for *Newcastle* on *Monday* morning. What success I meet with, your Ladyship shall hear in my next. Was it not so late in the year, I think I would go to *Ireland.* May the LORD direct my goings in his way! *Kendal,* I believe, must have another visit.

The enclosed is from one of Mr. *W*——'s preachers. The contents I believe will please your Ladyship. Honoured Madam, what shall I say? The Redeemer's goodness quite amazes me. "Less than the least of all," shall be my motto still. With regret, I send your Ladyship Mr. *H*——'s too, too much embellished and extravagant character of ill and hell-deserving me. It came from *Plymouth* last post. Your Ladyship desired to see it, or otherwise I could not bear to send it. To me, O blessed JESUS, nothing belongs, but shame and confusion of face. O that praise as well as contempt may humble this proud heart of mine! Then I shall never be hurt by having the honour to subscribe myself, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged, and
very ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLVII.

To Mr. L——.

Newcastle, Aug. 9, 1750.

My dear dying Friend,

THOUGH absent in body, yet I am present with you in spirit; and whilst you are in this tabernacle of clay, as our LORD enables, you shall not be forgotten before his throne. Ere long you will be called to sit upon it; JESUS himself will rise and take you in.—And why? He hath redeemed you unto GOD by his blood, and given you the first fruits of heaven already in your heart. Fear not therefore, my dear friend, to go through *Jordan*. The great High Priest stands ready to guide you, and will land you safe in *Canaan*. *I præ, sequar.*—Yet a little while, and my turn will come. In heaven we shall part no more. Till then, my dear dying friend, farewel! O that I may hear that you go off in triumph. But whether this be vouchsafed or not, I know you will die in peace. To the GOD of peace and love do I most earnestly commend you. Let this be your joyful language,

A guilty, weak and helpless worm,
Into thy arms I fly:
Be thou my strength and righteousness,
My JESUS *and my all.*

I send affectionate respects to both your sisters, and to Mr. *B*——. I pray that the LORD JESUS may love them as he loved *Lazarus*, *Mary*, and their sister *Martha*, and I entreat you to accept this as a token of unfeigned christian love, from, my very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLVIII.

To Mr. P——.

My dear Mr. P——, *London, Sept.* 4, 1750.

I Received your kind letter yesterday, which was like the prophet's roll, full of lamentation, and mourning, and woe. But what shall we say? It must needs be that offences come.—Wo to the inhabitants of the earth, and of the sea, for the devil is come down in great wrath, knowing he hath but a short time to reign; but let us look upwards. Every plant that our heavenly father hath not planted, shall be rooted up; only let him that standeth take heed lest he fall. You must salute dear Mr. *R*—— and the rest of the brethren in my name. As far as I know, we are like-minded as to principles, and I shall be glad to do all that I can to strengthen their hands, only let nothing be done through strife and vain-glory. Blessed be GOD, my poor labours never met with greater acceptance in *England* and *Scotland* than now, and I would gladly fly to *Wales*, but perhaps my coming had better be deferred to the cool of the day. Let us not fear. This storm will blow over.—Truth is great, and though driven out of doors for a while, will prevail at the last. Alas, what are we when a party spirit lays hold on us! I suspect the principles that are productive of such practices.—O that these things may lead us nearer to CHRIST, keep us closer to his blessed word, and be sanctified to the moulding us into a nearer conformity to his divine image. The meekness and lowliness of JESUS, I want to be a large partaker of. You must pray for me, and let me know how affairs stand. My tender love to all. I am, dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLIX.

To Lady H——n.

Honoured Madam, *Portſmouth, Sept.* 8, 1750.

TO day my wife ſent me the melancholy news of the death of your Ladyſhip's eldeſt daughter, but withal wrote me that ſhe died very comfortably. Indeed when I left her, GOD's ſpirit ſeemed to be working ſo ſtrongly upon her heart, that I thought ſhe would ſoon go to heaven, or ſhine as a glorious ſaint on earth. It hath pleaſed a ſovereign GOD to cut ſhort his work in righteouſneſs, and call her home. A trial this indeed, for your Ladyſhip! but a trial, in which I hope your Ladyſhip will have grace given to acquieſce. O that with *Aaron* you may be enabled to hold your peace, and with the bereaved *Shunamite* to ſay, "It is well." And if the Redeemer ſhould call your Ladyſhip to part with another daughter (hard trial for fleſh and blood) may you be ſtrengthened chearfully to give her up, and hear the LORD of all Lords ſaying unto you, "Now know I that thou loveſt me, ſince thou haſt not with-held two dear daughters from me." Now is the time, honoured Madam, to prove the ſtrength of JESUS to be yours. Now is the time to be ſtrong in faith, and give glory to GOD. The Redeemer will be better to you than ſeven daughters. What a comfort is it, honoured Madam, for you to think that Miſs *C*—— gave ſuch comfortable evidences of her dying in the LORD. She is bleſſed indeed, and the language of her departed ſoul is, "weep not for me." Comfort yourſelf, honoured Madam, with this thought, and ſay like *David*, "I ſhall go to her, but ſhe will not return to me." May this trial be ſanctified to your Ladyſhip's whole houſehold, and may your ſurviving children learn to die betimes! I could enlarge, but am afraid of being troubleſome. On *Tueſday*, GOD willing, I hope to be in *London* for one day, and ſhall be impatient to know how the all-wiſe GOD is pleaſed to diſpoſe of your Ladyſhip's other daughter. In the mean while, my poor prayers ſhall be put up night and day, that your Ladyſhip may have grace given you to glorify CHRIST

in

in this time of need. I commend your Ladyſhip to his never-failing mercy, as being, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, ſympathizing, obliged, and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLX.

To Mr. R——.

London, Sept. 14, 1750.

My very dear Mr. R——,

GLAD was I, yea very glad, to receive your kind letter about two days ago. I ſend you this in return, with ten thouſand thanks for all favours conferred upon me, by you and yours. They are all numbered, and not one of them ſhall be forgotten before the LORD of all Lords, whoſe mercy endureth for ever. Surely, his goodneſs and mercy have followed me all the days of my life, and bleſſed be his holy name, I ſhall ere long dwell in his houſe for ever. At my return to town, I was received, though utterly unworthy, with great joy, and our LORD has manifeſted forth his glory in the great congregation. I have preached in Mr. *W*——'s chapel ſeveral times, and I truſt a young lady of high rank was truly awakened about a fortnight ago, and who is ſince gone triumphantly to heaven. Mr. *W*—— breakfaſted and prayed with me this morning, and Mr. *H*——*y* was ſo kind as to come up and be with me in my houſe. He is a dear man, and I truſt will yet be ſpared to write much for the Redeemer's glory. I have prevailed on him to ſit for his picture, and it will be publiſhed in a ſhort time. Two dozen of my pictures, as my friends ſo earneſtly deſired them, are ſent directed to you. Be pleaſed to let them be diſpoſed of, as ſhall be judged moſt proper. O that my heart might in ſome meaſure reſemble the image of my dear LORD! You and yours will not fail to pray, that it may be written in lively characters, and that I may go on my way rejoicing. I never forget you or any other of my dear *Scotch* friends. Juſt now I have good news from *Kendal*; a young woman, whom GOD was pleaſed to awaken when I was there, went off lately (as my friend expreſſes it) "with flying colours." Grace! Grace! LORD, make me humble! LORD JESUS, make me truly thankful!

ful! I am just now going for *Chatham*. Last LORD's day I was at *Portsmouth*. Next week, GOD willing, I go to *Gloucester*. I hope good Lady *D*—— and her beloved son and daughter, &c. are prospering in soul and body. I send them my most dutiful respects, and ten thousand thanks, and beg you, my very dear Sir, to accept the same from,

Yours most affectionately in our blessed LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXI.

To Lady H——.

Ever-honoured Madam, *London, Sept.* 17, 1750.

THOUGH it is a cross to me to be detained so long from coming to *Ashby*, yet I trust hitherto my steps have been guided by an over-ruling providence for good. Yesterday afternoon I returned from *Chatham*, where I think there is as promising a work begun as almost in any part of *England*. Last night the Redeemer's glory was seen in the tabernacle, and your Ladyship's letter revived my heart, and gave me some fresh hopes for ungrateful *Ashby*. My heart's desire and prayer to the LORD of all Lords is, that your Ladyship may live to see much of the travail of the Redeemer's soul. I am glad Mr. *M*—— is ordained, and hope Mr. *B*—— will be the next, soon. By Mr. *L*——'s letter to him, I find your Ladyship has acted in the affair like yourself. Your Ladyship shall have a copy of it, and you will then see how matters go. Mr. *B*—— is much for embarking in CHRIST's cause, and if the D—— would but help him at this juncture, he might be a useful and happy man. Both he and Mr. *H*—— have the most grateful sense of your Ladyship's great kindness. The latter I believe intends to winter with me in *London*. If possible, I will prevail on Mr. *H*——*ly*, at my return, to come and pay him a visit. To-morrow morning, GOD willing, I set out for *Gloucester*, and intend coming to *Birmingham*, and so to your Ladyship's. In my way I hope to write to Lady *B*——, and be as particular as circumstances will admit. I am surprized at your Ladyship's doing and going through so much. But what cannot a believer do, when strengthened by the blessed JESUS? Your Ladyship will be remembered most heartily before him this afternoon, it being our letter-

day.

day. That you may long live to ſhine in his church below, and after death be tranſlated to ſhine with diſtinguiſhed luſtre in the realms of light and love above, is the continual prayer of, ever, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged, and moſt cheerful ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXII.

To Lady B—— H——.

Madam, *Glouceſter, Sept.* 22, 1750.

AS I know your Ladyſhip had a great eſteem for the late honourable Miſs *H*——, I cannot but think a ſhort account of her behaviour, under her laſt ſickneſs, muſt not only alleviate the concern your Ladyſhip muſt neceſſarily have for ſo intimate a friend, but alſo excite you to pray, that your latter end may be like hers. I think it is now near three weeks ſince good Lady *G*—— deſired me to viſit her ſick daughter. She had been prayed for very earneſtly the preceding day after the ſacrament, and likewiſe previous to my viſit in Lady *H*——'s room. When I came to her bedſide, ſhe ſeemed glad to ſee me, but deſired I would ſpeak and pray as ſoftly as I could. I converſed with her a little, and ſhe dropped ſome ſtrong things about the vanity of the world, and the littleneſs of every thing out of CHRIST. I prayed as low as I could, but in prayer (your Ladyſhip has been too well acquainted with ſuch things to call it *enthuſiaſm*) I felt a very uncommon energy and power to wreſtle with GOD in her behalf. She ſoon broke out into ſuch words as theſe, "what a wretch am I?" She ſeemed to ſpeak out of the abundance of her heart, from a feeling ſenſe of her own vileneſs. Her honoured Parent and attending ſervants were affected. After prayer, ſhe ſeemed as though ſhe felt things unutterable, bemoaned her ingratitude to GOD and CHRIST; and I believe would gladly have given a detail of all her faults ſhe could reckon. Her having had a form of godlineſs, but never having felt the power, was what ſhe moſt bewailed. I left her; ſhe continued in the ſame frame; and when Mrs. *S*—— aſked her whether ſhe felt her heart to be as bad as

ſhe

ſhe expreſſed herſelf, ſhe anſwered, "yes, and worſe." At her requeſt, ſome time after this, I gave her the holy communion; a communion indeed it was. Never did I ſee a perſon receive it with ſeemingly greater contrition, more earneſt deſire for pardon and reconciliation with GOD through CHRIST, or ſtronger purpoſes of devoting her future life to his ſervice. Being weak, ſhe was deſired to keep lying on her bed. She replied, "I can riſe to take my phyſic; ſhall I not riſe to pray?" When I was repeating the Communion Office, ſhe applied all to herſelf, and broke out frequently aloud in her applying. When I ſaid, the burden of them is intolerable, ſhe burſt out—"yea very intolerable," with abundance of ſuch like expreſſions. When ſhe took the bread and wine, her concern gave her utterance, and ſhe ſpake like one that was ripening for heaven. Thoſe around her, wept for joy.—My cold heart alſo was touched, and I left her with a full perſuaſion, that ſhe was either to be taken off ſoon, or to be a bleſſing here below. I think ſhe lived about a week afterwards: ſhe continued in the ſame frame as far as I hear, and I truſt is now gone, where ſhe will ſing the ſong of *Moſes* and of the Lamb for ever. The thoughts of this, comforts good Lady *G*——, and the ſame conſideration, I am perſuaded, will have the ſame effect upon your Ladyſhip. Only methinks I hear your Ladyſhip add, "No, I will not ſtop here. By divine grace I will devote myſelf to JESUS CHRIST now, and give him no reſt, till I ſee the world in that light as dear Miſs *H*—— did, and as I myſelf ſhall, when I come to die. I will follow my honoured mother as ſhe follows JESUS CHRIST, and count the Redeemer's reproach of more value than all the honours, riches and pleaſures of the world. I will fly to CHRIST by faith, and through the help of my GOD, keep up not only the form, but alſo the power of godlineſs in heart and life." That the glorious *Emanuel* may enable your Ladyſhip to put all this into practice, is the earneſt prayer of, Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCLXIII.

Dear Miſs B——, *Everſham, Sept.* 28, 1750.

I Thank you for your kind letter, and thank our heavenly Father for bleſſing the ſeed ſown to any of my hearers. Not unto me O LORD, not unto me, but unto thy free unmerited mercy, be all the glory!

If thou excuſe, then work thy will,
By ſo unfit an inſtrument;
It will at once thy grace diſplay,
And prove thy power omnipotent.

Hitherto our LORD continues to help me. Since my return from *Scotland*, I have been brought very low; but as my day is, ſo is my ſtrength. At *London*, *Portſmouth*, *Chatham*, and lately in *Glouceſterſhire* we have had many pleaſant ſeaſons. I am now going to *Birmingham*, *Coventry*, &c. GOD only knows when I ſhall ſee my beloved *Scotland* again. Gladly could I live and die with my dear friends there. It is my comfort, that thoſe who are friends to JESUS, ſhall live eternally together hereafter. I know ſeveral of late that went off triumphantly. O that we may be kept from being cumbered! O that nothing may draw us from the feet of JESUS! There, and there alone is ſolid peace to be found. Every thing is good that drives us thither. That this may be always your abiding place, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Miſs *B*——,

Your affectionate friend, and
ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. Z——.

Aſhby, Oct. 9, 1750.

I Should have written to you long before now, but I waited for the arrival of Mr. *Haberſham*'s ſhip, in which I expected letters of conſequence. They are now come, and two of the chief I ſend encloſed in this, and ſhall omit ſaying any thing further, till I have the pleaſure of ſeeing you, which I hope will be ſome time next week or the week after. Immediately

diately after I left you, I have reaſon to think that the glorious Redeemer (O infinite condeſcenſion!) vouchſafed to make me inſtrumental in the converſion of Lady *H*——'s eldeſt daughter, who I hope is gone to reſt. I am now at her Ladyſhip's houſe with four other clergymen, who I believe love and preach CHRIST in ſincerity: but *Aſhby* people reject the kingdom of GOD againſt themſelves. At *Portſmouth*, *Chatham*, *Glouceſterſhire*, *Birmingham*, *Wedneſbury*, *Everſham*, *Nottingham*, &c. our infinite High-prieſt has given us pleaſant ſeaſons. I am now waiting every day for my wife's being delivered of her preſent burden, and hope ere long to rejoice that a child is born into the world. O that it may be born again and made an heir of the Redeemer's kingdom. This is all my deſire. Honoured Sir, you ſee how freely I open myſelf unto you. I count it a great privilege that you allow me this liberty, and I earneſtly pray our bleſſed LORD to reward you ten thouſand fold. He has been pleaſed frequently to comfort and encourage my heart this circuit, and in the midſt of all, lets me know he is my GOD. O that he may be my glory! O that I may be never left to diſhonour him! Reverend Sir, for JESUS's ſake continue to pray for me, who, with grateful acknowledgments for all favours, beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, honoured Sir,

Your moſt obliged, affectionate, though unworthy younger brother, and fellow-labourer in the kingdom of CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXV.

To the Counteſs D——.

Honoured Madam, *Aſhby, Oct.* 11, 1750.

IT would give me concern, was I to return to *London*, though from ever ſo ſhort an excurſion, without letting your Ladyſhip know that you are always remembered by me at the throne of grace. Upon ſuch a throne the Redeemer ſits, holding out his golden ſceptre, and aſking us, "What is your petition? And what is your requeſt?" My requeſt for your Ladyſhip is, that you may increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. This I truſt your Ladyſhip is daily doing, and conſequently increaſing in inward happineſs, peace and joy. The riches of the divine life are indeed unſearchable. May your Ladyſhip

Ladyſhip dig for them as for hid treaſure, till faith be turned into viſion, and hope into the endleſs fruition of the ever bleſſed GOD! That time will ſhortly come. I have been labouring at *Birmingham*, in *Glouceſterſhire*, at *Nottingham*, &c. to awaken a ſleepy world to a ſenſe of it, and I truſt not without ſucceſs. On laſt *Thurſday* I came here, and next *Monday*, GOD willing, ſhall ſet out for *London*. Good Lady *H*—— goes on acting the part of a mother in *Iſrael*, more and more. For a day or two ſhe has had five clergymen under her roof, which makes her Ladyſhip look like a *good Archbiſhop* with his Chaplains around him. Her houſe is indeed a *Bethel*. To us in the miniſtry, it looks like a college. We have the Sacrament every morning, heavenly converſation all day, and preach at night. This is to *live at Court*, indeed. Laſt night I had the pleaſure of ſeeing a little flock that ſeemed to be awakened by the grace of GOD; ſo that even out of ungrateful *Aſhby*, I truſt there will be raiſed up many children unto *Abraham*. Your Ladyſhip, and the other elect Ladies, are never forgotten by us. I would write to good Lady *F*——, but I hear ſhe is out of town. That the choiceſt of divine bleſſings, even the ſure mercies of *David*, may follow you both all the days of your lives, is the hearty prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful,
obliged, and ready ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXVI.

To Lady H——m.

Honoured Madam, *Aſhby, Oct.* 11, 1750.

IT is with great pleaſure that I have heard of your Ladyſhip's being ſo ſupported under your late bereavement, and of the good impreſſions made on ſurviving relations by it. Thus the Redeemer delights to magnify his ſtrength in his people's weakneſs, and cauſes the death of one, to be the life, as it were, the reſurrection of another. O what amazing myſteries will be unfolded, when each link in the golden chain of Providence and Grace, ſhall be ſeen and ſcanned by beatified ſpirits in the kingdom of heaven! There all will appear ſymmetry and harmony, and even the moſt intricate and ſeemingly

ingly moſt contrary diſpenſations, will be evidenced to be the reſult of infinite and conſummate wiſdom, power, and love. Above all, there the believer will ſee the infinite depths of that myſtery of godlineſs, "GOD manifeſted in the fleſh," and join with that bleſſed choir, who with a reſtleſs unweariedneſs are ever ſinging the ſong of *Moſes* and the Lamb. There your Ladyſhip I believe will ſee your departed daughter, not ſtruggling with a burning fever, but burning with love extatic, and with ſeraphic ſweetneſs adoring that Redeemer, who at the eleventh hour, even on a dying bed, ſnatched her as a brand out of the fire. But what am I doing? I fear, making your Ladyſhip's wounds to bleed afreſh.—But, honoured Madam, is it not a pleaſant bleeding, to think of bearing children for heaven? To ſee thoſe neareſt and deareſt parts of ourſelves go before us thither—O what a favour is this! May your Ladyſhip be always thus highly favoured: may you live to ſee all your ſurviving children taught and born of GOD. I muſt not enlarge. Neither have I room to acquaint your Ladyſhip, how that mirror of piety, good Lady *H*——, adorns the goſpel of her LORD in all things. I wrote ſome particulars of our ſituation to the good Counteſs. I can now only add, that when I come to town, your Ladyſhip may at any time command, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXVII.

To Mr. T——.

My very dear Mr. T——, *Aſhby, Oct.* 13, 1750.

YOUR kind letter did not reach me till about two days ago. I embrace the firſt opportunity of anſwering it. If you write often, GOD willing, you ſhall hear oftener from me. You are peculiarly dear to me, and therefore I heartily wiſh you was thruſt out into our LORD's harveſt. *Vox populi*, much more *vox amicorum*, is frequently *vox Dei*. I ſay to you, as a good old miniſter did to one whom you know, and who was as unwilling to go into the vineyard, as you can be, "I believe if St. *Paul* was alive, he would ordain you." You have a moderate ſhare of learning, an agreeable addreſs, a

good

good elocution, a little knowledge of mankind, and of yourself, and above all an experimental acquaintance with the LORD JESUS CHRIST, with a door of usefulness immediately opening; and what would you more? I wish some latent pride may not be at the bottom. Lose no more time, my dear man. The voice of CHRIST to you now is, "Follow me, and I will make thee a fisher of men." The harvest is great, the labourers are few. Thousands are perishing for lack of that knowledge, which you have already. The world wants more heat than light. *Crescit eundo, crescit agendo*, is a young minister's motto. I think the Itinerancy abroad would suit you well. By travelling before you take on you a settled charge, you will get a deeper insight into the world and the church; you will insensibly acquire larger and more sublime thoughts of GOD's providence and grace, and consequently be more fit to serve whatever flock the Holy Ghost shall hereafter place you over. I believe that your honoured father loves CHRIST too well, to stand out long against a rational scheme for the extensive usefulness of his son. He is a dear man, whom I love in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. Pray remember me to him in the kindest manner, and tell him I purpose writing to him as soon as possible. This leaves me at *Ashby*, at good Lady *H——n*'s, whose house is indeed a *Bethel* to those who are willing to follow her, as she follows JESUS CHRIST. One of high rank, I really believe, was converted lately on a dying bed, and her death I trust hath proved the life of one or two more. One of the *Kendal* converts is gone off in flying colours, and our blessed LORD has given us sweet seasons at *Portsmouth*, *Chatham*, *Gloucestershire*, *Birmingham*, *Evesham*, *Wednesbury*, *Nottingham*, &c. Next *Monday*, GOD willing, I go for *London*, in order to put into winter quarters. The LORD prepare me for a fresh campaign! Do you know any one fit for a Tutor at *Georgia?* I am glad that *New Jersey* college succeeds. I had lately a letter from Governor *Belcher*, which I suppose you have seen; it was sent to Mr. *N*——. Colonel *W*—— proposes that Mr. *P*—— shall come over with one of the *Indians*; I wish he may. I am sorry to hear that Mr. —— is likely to destroy himself by hard study. I had rather he would kill himself with hard working, and going about to do good. Mr. *G*—— seems to me to have chosen the better part. How is

dear

dear Mr. *R*—— *W*——? I hope he is like a flame of fire. Pray salute him and all my dear, very dear friends in the tenderest manner. I could live and die with them. In heaven we shall live together. There we shall see our dear Mr. *L*——. I hope your little choir are every day learning more and more of the new song, in order to join him in the realms above.—You have all my hearty love and prayers. Accept the same yourself in a very particular manner from, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in a precious CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXVIII.

To Governor B——. Belcher

Honoured Sir, *Ashby, Oct.* 13, 1750.

I Had the favour of your Excellency's letter, and took the liberty of communicating it to good Lady *H*——*n*, who shines in the church of CHRIST on this side the water, as a star of the first magnitude. Her Ladyship will be very glad to open a correspondence with your Excellency; and seems to speak of *New-Jersey* College with great satisfaction. I rejoice to hear that it is in a prosperous situation. If Mr. *P*—— or Mr. *B*—— can be prevailed on to come over, I am persuaded liberal contributions will be raised both in *England* and *Scotland*. All was ready, if dear Mr. *A*—— had not been taken off by death; but even this our blessed LORD can and will over-rule for good. I think it forebodes good for *America*, that such a spirit is excited in so many provinces for promoting a learned and religious education. GOD only knows how much my heart is on that side the water. I should certainly have embarked about this time, did not my wife daily expect an hour of travail. I can only say, "It is the LORD; let him do what seemeth him good." Blessed be his name, fresh doors for usefulness are opened every week. We had a blessed scene this Summer in *Scotland*, and ever since I have been ranging about, to see who will believe the gospel report. O that I may die in the field! I am now at my good Lady's with three clergymen that love and preach JESUS CHRIST. Several souls have been awakened here. One of high birth was lately converted on her dying bed; and by that means I trust one or two more

are

are put upon securing the one thing needful. On *Monday* I shall leave her Ladyship, to go for *London*, which is to be my Winter quarters. I shall long for *Spring*, that I may enter upon a fresh campaign. O that my soul may begin to spring indeed! spring for Him who was stretched upon the accursed tree to save my wretched soul. Blessed be his name, that your Excellency has got such a sweet retreat in the decline of life; where, free from noise and hurry, you and your consort may ripen for heaven, and consequently be more and more fitted for your last great change. That will now shortly come. Your Excellency is arrived to a good old age. You have by faith seen the LORD CHRIST. You have been instrumental in founding a christian college. Let death come when it will, with good old *Simeon*, you may say, "LORD, now letteſt thou thy servant depart in peace," for my soul hath experienced thy great salvation! This I believe, honoured Sir, is all your desire. Our LORD will grant it to you. O that when you are near his throne, you may have a petition upon your heart for unworthy, ill-deserving, hell-deserving me! Your Excellency hath laid me under many obligations; let me entreat you by the mercies of GOD in CHRIST JESUS, to add to them by not ceasing to pray for me, that as I have had much forgiven me, I may, with *Magdalen*, love much; and being a brand plucked out of the burning, I may, in GOD's own time and way, be translated to dwell with JESUS in his kingdom. As our LORD enables, the favour shall constantly be returned in behalf of you and yours, by, honoured Sir,

Your Excellency's most dutiful, obliged,
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXIX.

To Baron Z———. Zinzendorf

Honoured Sir, *London, Nov. 9, 1750.*

THE love of JESUS CHRIST constrains me to send you a few lines. They flow from a heart truly sympathizing with your beloved Baroness, under your present trials. O that patience may have its perfect work in your souls! O that with your tempted, afflicted, agonizing JESUS, you may be enabled

to ſay, "The cup, which our heavenly Father hath given us, ſhall we not drink it?" I doubt not, but you find it ſweetened with his love:—"for he will not ſuffer us to be tempted above what we are able to bear; but will with the temptation make a way for us to eſcape." The ſacrificing our relations to his ſovereign good will and pleaſure, is no ſmall trial, eſpecially when unconverted. But what ſays the ſcripture? "Neither did his brethren believe on him." Your LORD can ſympathize with you under your preſent circumſtances;

He knows what this temptation means,
For he has felt the ſame.

Look up, therefore, to him, honoured Sir, who has promiſed never to leave nor forſake you. He hath helped you out of ſix, he will alſo help you out of ſeven troubles. I write this out of the fulneſs of my heart. My poor prayers are continually aſcending to the throne of grace in your behalf. I hope you will not be offended at my freedom in writing. Love and gratitude are my only motives. Good Lady *H———n* will ſympathize with you, when ſhe hears how you are ſituated. I left her ſome little time paſt abounding in the work of the LORD. I had a pleaſant excurſion into the country, and my Winter quarters are made very agreeable in town. What ſhall I render unto the LORD? Honoured Sir, I beg a continued intereſt in your prayers, and thoſe of your honoured Baroneſs.—You know my name,—I am the chief of ſinners, leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, but for JESUS CHRIST's ſake,

Your ſympathizing ready ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXX.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Mr. S——, *Canterbury, Nov.* 20, 1750.

BY that time yours reached *London*, I ſuppoſe my laſt will have reached *Dublin*, and find you on the full ſtretch for him, who was ſtretched upon the croſs for you and me. As far as I can judge of the circumſtances you related to me, ſettling as you propoſe, will not hinder, but rather further you in your preſent work. Only beware of neſtling. If you do,

and

and GOD loves you (as I believe he does) you shall have thorns enough put into your nest. O that I may be enabled, even to the end, to evidence, that nothing but a pure disinterested love to CHRIST and souls, caused me to begin, go on, and hold out, in pursuing the present work of GOD! I have seen so many that once bid exceedingly fair, and afterwards, *Demas* like, preferred the world to CHRIST, that I cannot be too jealous over myself, or others whom I profess to love. This is my motive in writing to you, love, even love unfeigned; love for CHRIST's sake, and the good of souls. O let no one take away your crown. If you marry, let it be in the LORD, and for the LORD, and then the LORD will give it his blessing. Only remember this, marry when or whom you will, expect trouble in the flesh. But I spare you. Seven years hence, if we should live and meet, we can talk better of these things. In the mean while, let us go on leaning on our Beloved. He, and He alone, can keep us unspotted from the world. Does the work prosper among you? It increases here. At *Canterbury* I find several souls are awakened. GOD willing, I leave it to-morrow. You must pray for me, and exhort all to continue their prayers also. I expect, one day or another, to see some glorious days in *Ireland*. I am called away.—For the present, adieu.

Yours most affectionately in our blessed LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXI.

To Mr. T———.

My dear Mr. T———, *London, Nov.* 30, 1750.

AS I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and look upon you as an aged friend of the blessed Bridegroom, and my friend for his great name's sake, I cannot help dropping you a few lines. They are lines of gratitude; lines of thanks for all favours conferred upon me when in *Scotland*. They leave me pleasantly sojourning in my Winter quarters, and longing for the Spring that I may enter upon a fresh campaign. Now and then I make little excursions, and can inform you, that there is a sweet work begun and carrying on at *Canterbury* and *Chatham*. I long to hear that your son

John has put his hand to the gospel plough, and am not without hopes that his lot will be to itinerate, at least for a while. He seems to be qualified for such an employ. I shall be glad to see him on the other side of the water. Had I the management of a thousand youths, if circumstances would allow, they should travel for one year at least, before they took upon them a settled charge. Methinks I hear you say, "What! will you take my *Benjamin* away?" This was old *Jacob*'s infirmity. You love CHRIST too well to refuse giving up the young lad, if it should appear in providence that the LORD hath need of him either at home or abroad. I pray GOD to direct and bless you both, and to establish his covenant with you and your seed for ever. You are now on the decline of life. I have been just reading about the year of jubilee. How joyful were the prisoners when they heard of the approach of that wish'd-for day! How much more joyful may those be, who having an interest in JESUS CHRIST, are waiting for the last trump, to proclaim our eternal jubilee in heaven! This, my dear friend, is your happy lot. Rejoice, and again I say, rejoice. The day of our complete redemption draweth nigh. Let us then lift up our heads, and let us lift up our hearts to praise him, from whom alone cometh our salvation. I could enlarge, but am called away. My hearty love to all enquiring friends. I think to write to your son soon. We had a happy day yesterday among the Great Ones. I am, my very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our dear LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXII.

To Doctor W——.

My dear Doctor, *London, Dec.* 17, 1750.

I Received your kind letter, and would have answered it much sooner, had I not been prevented by sickness. For near a fortnight past, I have been confined to my room; but through the divine blessing, am now enabled to preached again. Praise the LORD, O my soul. My disorder was a violent fever: JESUS hath rebuked it. I am raised up once more. O may it be that I may minister unto him! For me to live is CHRIST. But alas! how little do I live to his glory! Yesterday I entered

tered upon my seven-and-thirtieth year. I am ashamed to think I have lived so long, and done so little, and yet every year, day, and hour of my life hath been crowned with the divine goodness. O my dear friend, let this be our motto, *Vivimus ut viviamus.* It is enough when we come to our last moments, to have nothing to do, but to die. Blessed be GOD, that you have courage given you to speak to the dying. A word spoken in such a season how good is it? May the great physician take you under his peculiar care, forgive you all your sins, and heal all your diseases! I purpose writing to my friend *J*—— *T*——, and others, as I get strength. At present, I must content myself with sending general, but cordial salutations, and begging the continual interest of your prayers in behalf of, my very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXIII.

To Mr. T——.

London, Dec. 21, 1750.

I Have been lately near the gates of death, which has hindered my answering your kind letter as soon as I proposed. Accept a few, though loving lines now. I hope they will find you entered upon your trials, and longing to preach the gospel, which you have felt to be the power of GOD to the salvation of your soul. Every line of your letter seemed to have this call in it, "Rise, *T*——*r*, rise,—the harvest is great; the labourers are few: pray the LORD of the harvest to send thee, and many more like-minded, into the harvest." I cannot write much at present. Inclosed you have a few extracts. That from Lady *H*——*n*, came last week when she was dangerously ill. May the LORD continue her useful life! I am now entering upon my seven-and-thirtieth year. O that I may begin to live to him, who hath lived and died for me! I shall be glad to know your friend's answer about *Georgia.* If the LORD raises up a solid, heavenly-minded, learned young man for a tutor, I shall be glad. Nothing, I believe, but sickness or death, will prevent my going over next year. Methinks the winter is long; I want to take the field

again. Could you send me all Mr. *G*——'s weekly papers. We prayed heartily last *Monday* for the awakened *Hollanders*. I have heard of several lately awakened here. To the blessed and glorious JESUS be all the praise. My dear friend, my heart leaps at the very mention of his name. When I muse of him, the fire kindles. O that you and I may shew forth his praise while we have a tongue! Pray remember me to all in the kindest manner, and beg them not to forget unworthy me. Let not my being so slow in answering your last, prevent your writing speedily to, my dear Mr. *T*——,

Yours most affectionately in our dearest LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXIV.

To Lady S——.

Honoured Madam, *London, Dec.* 25, 1750.

I Had the favour of your Ladyship's letter on *Saturday* afternoon, and immediately communicated what concerned him, to my ingenious and devout friend Mr. *H*——. With this, your Ladyship will receive a line from him. I perswaded him, that your Ladyship would not take it ill. Poor Mr. *B*—— is much obliged to your Ladyship for speaking in his behalf. He happened to be with me, when your Ladyship's letter came. The Reception that your Ladyship's kind motion met with, convinces me more and more, that "Be ye warmed, and be ye filled," without giving any thing to be warmed and filled with, is the farthest that most professors go. Words are cheap, and cost nothing; and therefore many can say, "they pity," and that extremely too, when at the same time, their practice shews it is only a verbal, and not a real compassion. I often told the poor man, that his dependance was too strong; and that I was afraid least help would not come from that quarter where he expected most. He sends ten thousand thanks for what your Ladyship hath done already. Surely he is worthy. He is a lover of CHRIST, and his outward circumstances very pitiable indeed. Your Ladyship will not be offended at the freedom I take. You love to help the distressed to the utmost of your power; and your Ladyship shall find that good measure, prest down and running over, shall be returned into

your bosom. That your Ladyship may experience the truth of this, in respect to temporals and spirituals, more and more every day, is the earnest prayer of, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged, dutiful,
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXV.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Mr. S——, *London, Jan. 4, 1751.*

IMMEDIATELY upon the receipt of your last from *Limerick*, I wrote you an answer, directed for you at *Limerick* post-office, as you desired. As you are going that way, ere this reaches you, I hope you will have received it. I pray the LORD of all lords to give you such grace, that all may see, that the doctrines of the gospel are indeed productive of righteousness, and true holiness in heart, lip, and life. Mind this, and then fear not. Continue as you are, until you are absolutely rejected. I want not to proselyte persons to myself, but to the glorious *Emmanuel*, my LORD and Master JESUS CHRIST. Perhaps He may send me to *Ireland*; though some weeks ago I hoped that he was about to take me to heaven. I kept my room near a fortnight, and still continue very weak. This obliges me to be brief. My wife is now expecting an hour of travail. Some time this month I trust she will be delivered. She desires to be remembered to you. GOD willing, Mr. Z—— shall hear from me. I do not yet hear who is to be the person. Unless you have thoughts of going abroad, I see no objection against your altering your condition. May the LORD direct and bless you and all in that important step! It is a change for life. We have had blessed seasons here; but methinks the Winter is very long. O that I was entering upon a Spring campaign! It is a new year. My dear Mr. S——, why should we not begin to begin to live to that JESUS, who has done and suffered so much for us! I trust this is the language of your heart,

A life that all things casts behind,
Springs forth obedient at thy call;
A heart, that no desire can move,
But still t'adore, believe, and love,
Give me, my LORD, *my life, my all!*

I hear you say, *Amen, Amen. Hallelujah!* I must have done. Bodily strength fails me. My love to all that love CHRIST JESUS. Brethren, pray for us, is the earnest request of, my dear Mr. *S*——,

Yours most affectionately in our dearest LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXVI.

To Mr. L——.

Dear Mr. L——, *London, Jan.* 13, 1751.

BEFORE I had the pleasure of your letter, I had heard some particulars of the late commotion at *Canterbury*. Ere now I hope you have been directed to the choice of such means, as may, under GOD, open the door wider than ever for preaching the everlasting gospel in your parts. Satan has done at *Canterbury* as he always does elsewhere; I mean, he has overshot his mark. Such proceedings are too violent to hold long. Exhort, therefore, my dear Sir, your fellow-soldiers, to quit themselves like men, and be strong. Put ye on the whole armour of GOD; and always remember, that through much tribulation we must enter into glory. Now is the time for you to prove the strength of JESUS to be yours. Your way to fight, is upon your knees. That weapon *all-prayer* will do wonders. The devil has lost some servants, and he is afraid of losing more. Therefore he rallies his forces as *Pharaoh* harnessed his chariots, and wants to bring you back to *Egypt*. Your business is to go on. Though *Pharaoh* is behind, and a red-sea before you,—ere long you shall pass through the one, and see the other totally destroyed. In patience possess ye your souls. GOD is able to bring the counsel of every *Achitophel* to nought. You know in whom you have believed. He never did, he never will, he never can fail those that put their trust in him. Think of those farewel words, which he spake in the days of his flesh to his dear disciples, "Let not your hearts be troubled; in the world ye shall have tribulation:—But I have overcome the world." That is enough to raise every drooping heart. He hath overcome for us; he will overcome in us, and ere long call us to reign with him for ever in glory. O blessed hope! Whilst I am musing

on

on it, the fire kindles. Brethren, my heart is enlarged towards you. The LORD ſtrengthen you, and give you to pray for

Your affectionate friend, brother, and ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXVII.

To Mr. X—— Y——.

Dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 15, 1751.

YOUR letter came ſafe to hand. I pray GOD enable me to anſwer it agreeable to his will. Your call to enter into the miniſtry, ſeems to be pretty clear, and if your health would permit you to be a tutor, and courage be given you to act like a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST, you might do unſpeakable good in reſiding at college. If a perſon's health will not admit of ſuch a reſidence, I think by the laws of GOD and man, his abſence may be diſpenſed with. Originally, *Fellows* were appointed to reſide; but there is no general rule without an exception. Particular circumſtances can only determine particular caſes. Mr. *W*—— I know hath been diſpenſed with many years:—and though I cannot ſay I have approved of this part of his conduct, yet as he is called elſewhere, and applies the college income to good purpoſes, I ſuppoſe he thinks he acts an honeſt and chriſtian part. As for the difficulties you ſeem to place before you, I can only ſay, "*Nil deſperandum Chriſto duce.*" Every new ſcene brings its new temptations; but faith in the Son of GOD, will make us more than conquerors over all. His love ſhed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghoſt, is the beſt director and ſupport in all circumſtances whatſoever. For want of an eſtabliſhment in this, and through the prevalency of an hypocondraical diſorder, you ſeem to have particular ſcruples about particular things. It is what all perſons, entering on the divine life, are more or leſs expoſed to. "Meditation, prayer, reading, and temptation, (ſays holy *Luther*) make a miniſter." Your levity of ſpirit, and fickleneſs of temper, are your greateſt diſeaſes. Theſe are to be watched and prayed againſt, and by divine grace will be overcome. Look up, therefore, dear Sir, to the bleſſed JESUS. Out of weakneſs he can and will make you

to

to become ſtrong, and turn your lightneſs of ſpirit into ſolid joy. Till then, be content rather to appear ſtupid, than by giving way to the luxuriancy of unſanctified wit, bring guilt upon your ſoul. Thus, dear Sir, I have endeavoured to anſwer your letter; though I muſt confeſs, as you are ſo near, I had rather converſe with you perſonally. You may uſe freedom with me. I rejoice that the glorious JESUS hath in any degree bleſſed my poor adminiſtrations to you. I need not, therefore, remind you to give him all the glory, and entreat you to pray for me, who am the very chief of ſinners, and leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, but for CHRIST's ſake, dear Sir,

Your very ready ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXVIII.

To Mr. B——.

My very dear Friend, *London, Jan.* 18, 1751.

YOUR kind letter I received this morning. The love I owe you for CHRIST's ſake, conſtrains me to ſend you an immediate anſwer. From the ſame motive I juſt now wrote to Mr. *B*——. Poor man! This is a home-ſtroke indeed! I hope he and his yoke-fellow will now take a large ſtep to heaven. May GOD prepare us, my dear friend, for the finiſhing trials! We muſt all have them in our turns. But wherefore ſhould we fear? Out of very faithfulneſs, our heavenly Father cauſes us to be troubled. Of his infinite mercy he hath lately been pleaſed to viſit me with a threatening illneſs. I was juſt caſting anchor;—but it ſeems I muſt put out to ſea again. O that it may be to direct others to the way that leads to the haven of eternal reſt! Who knows but I may ſound the goſpel once more in *Scotland?* I have ſome thoughts of coming for a little while, before I embark for *America.* You will deſire all the ſocieties to pray, that the LORD would order my goings in his way. I rejoice that they hold on their way. May they hold on and hold out to the end! My conſtant prayer for them is, that they may increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. Many in town have been awakened this Winter. O that I was humble! When ſhall that once be? O that

I was

I was thankful! Fain would I burn with love and gratitude like a ſeraph.

With arms of love, and wings of faith,
I'd fly and take the prize.

Well! Let faith and patience hold out a little longer, and all will be well. He is faithful, who hath promiſed, who alſo will do it. Believers ſhould look more to JESUS. It is the only way to keep their hands from hanging down, and to ſtrengthen their feeble knees. Exhort all to this: and pray ſalute every enquiring friend, every member of the ſocieties, in the moſt endearing manner; for indeed I love my *Scotch* friends in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST. Whilſt I am writing to and thinking of them, tears, but tears of love, are ready to guſh from mine eyes. O that I may meet them all in the kingdom of our Father! O that their lamps may be always trimmed, and their loins girt! Behold JESUS comes quickly, and his reward is with him: let us not leave him. Let us not flag in the latter ſtages of our road. O our bleeding, agonizing, dying JESUS, how have we pierced thee! At leaſt how have I! O that we may look and love, look and mourn, even as one that mourneth for a firſt-born or an only ſon. Dear Mr. *B*—— can now comment on this text. May the LORD comfort his heart, and be better to him than ſeven ſons! I can no more. Affections of various kinds quite overflow. I long to begin to do ſomething for JESUS. A ſenſe of my vileneſs and unfruitfulneſs, quite breaks my heart. Surely I ſhall ſing, free grace in heaven.—I write this to you as a friend. The LORD be with you, and reward you and all, for their ſympathy with me and mine. Fail not to pray for me; and believe me to be, my very dear Mr. *B*——,

Yours in the beſt of bonds,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXIX.

To Dr. W——.

My very dear Sir, *Aſhby-Place, Jan.* 29, 1751.

IT is high time to anſwer your kind letter. I am doing it at *Aſhby*, whither I rid poſt, not knowing whether I ſhould ſee good Lady *H*——*n* alive. Bleſſed be GOD, ſhe is ſomewhat

what better, and I truſt will not yet die, but live and abound more and more in the work of the LORD. Entreat all our friends to pray for her. Indeed ſhe is worthy. Her ſiſter-in-law, Lady *Frances H——*, lies dead in the houſe. She was a retired chriſtian, lived ſilently, and died ſuddenly without a groan. May my exit be like hers! Whether right or not, I cannot help wiſhing that I may go off in the ſame manner. To me it is worſe than death, to live to be nurſed, and ſee friends weeping about one. Sudden death, is ſudden glory. Methinks it is falling a ſleep indeed, or rather a tranſlation. But all this muſt be left to our heavenly Father. He knows what is beſt for us and others. Let it be our care to have all things ready. Let the houſe of our hearts, and our temporal affairs be put in order immediately, that we may have nothing to do but to obey the ſummons, though it ſhould be at evening, cock-crowing, or in the morning. Phyſicians that are always attending on the dying, one would imagine ſhould in a peculiar manner learn to die daily. May this be your daily employ! I believe it is; though, like me, you muſt complain that the old man dies hard. Well, has he got his deadly blow? Die then he ſhall, even that death to which he put our LORD. O that the language of our hearts may always be, "Crucify, crucify him." This is painful. But the Redeemer can help us to bear it.

Thou wilt give ſtrength, thou wilt give power;
Thou wilt in time ſet free;
This great deliverance let us hope,
Not for ourſelves, but thee!

I write this out of the fulneſs of my heart. You will receive it as ſuch, and remember me in the beſt manner to all friends. We have had good times. All glory be to JESUS through all eternity!

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCLXXX.

To Lady M—— H——.

Honoured Madam, *Ashby, Jan.* 30, 1751.

LAST *Monday* evening, through the goodness of an ever-blessed Redeemer, I got safe to *Ashby*, where I found good Lady *H——n* very sick, though I trust not unto death. All advise her Ladyship to take a journey to *Bristol*, for the benefit of the waters, which her Ladyship seems determined to do. The death of Lady *Frances*, has not affected her Ladyship so as to hurt her. She rejoices at the thoughts of her sister's being so quickly translated out of this house of bondage, into the glorious liberty of the sons of GOD. Her death was a translation indeed. Her Ladyship died without a groan. She seemed as it were to smile at death; and may be said, I trust, truly "to fall asleep in JESUS." Ere long, she and all that sleep in JESUS, shall come with him. I hope it hath been a purging time in this family. Almost all have been sick in their turns. Lady *Selina* has had a fever, but is better. Lady *Betty* is more affected than ever I saw her. A letter now from one of the young ladies, I hope would do service. Lady *Ann* bears up pretty well, but Miss *W——r* is inconsolable. It is a house of mourning; that is better than a house of feasting. The corpse is to be interred on *Friday* evening. May all that follow it, look and learn! I mean, learn to live, and learn to die. This is a lesson which you and yours, honoured Madam, I trust are learning every day. We had need be careful to get our lesson perfect, since we know not when the Son of Man will come, whether at evening,—cock-crowing,—or in the morning. To be ready at that hour, is all in all. Good Lady *H——n* sends her sincerest compliments. If any thing extraordinary happens before my return, your Ladyship shall hear again from, honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged,
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCLXXXI.

To Doctor S——.

My dear Doctor, *Ashby, Feb. 4, 1751.*

YOUR letter distresses me. GOD hasten the time when you shall sing chearfully,

Be gone, vain world, my heart resign,
For I must be no longer thine;
A nobler, a diviner guest,
Has got possession of my breast.

Why will you not shake off your chains? Why will you be stricken any more? You must come back, or be undone for ever. What have you gained by running from your father's house? His servants have bread enough, whilst you are perishing with hunger. Say, say, I pray you, without delay, "I will arise and go to my Father." His love keeps you uneasy; his love hedges up your way; his love follows and pursues you with this mighty famine. The language of all is, "Give me thy heart." Be content to become a fool for CHRIST's sake. Your body as well as soul, will suffer even in this world, if you do not comply. You are half dead already. Faith in CHRIST, and the love of GOD shed abroad in your heart, can alone cure you. You know too much to be happy without it: and O that dreadful sentence, "It had been better for them never to have known ——— &c." For CHRIST's sake, remember *Lot*'s wife. You are almost become a pillar of salt already. Out of anguish I write this. May CHRIST's love so constrain you, that you may never rest till you find solid rest in him! Good Lady *H——n* is gone to take the air. Your message shall be delivered. She is but poorly; and my wife writes me word, that she is exceeding bad. This must hasten my remove from hence. I insist upon Mr. *H——ly*'s coming directly to *Ashby*, if he has any regard for good Lady *H——n*. She ought always to have a christian friend with her. That you may have a feeling possession of CHRIST in your heart, is the hearty prayer of, my dear Sir,

Yours, &c. in great haste, but greater concern for you,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCLXXXII.

To Mr. B———.

Dear Sir, *London, Feb.* 8, 1751.

YESTERDAY I saw your letter to Mr. *V*——, which made me to think a line would not altogether be unacceptable to you. And what shall I say? Your case is affecting. O that your present confinement may be sanctified to the setting of your imprisoned soul at liberty, and bringing you home (after having so long fed on husks with swine) to feed upon the fatted calf! You know the father's behaviour to the returning prodigal. He saw him when he was yet a great way off.—He ran towards him,—filthy as he was, he fell upon his neck, and kissed him. Thus, if you resolve with the prodigal, to arise and go to your Father, will the ever-blessed GOD deal with you. He will embrace you in the arms of his love; he will also cloathe you with the righteousness of his dear Son, and cause joy to be in heaven even over you, on repenting and returning to him. Is not this enough to encourage you to lay hold on his golden sceptre? to resolve, in divine strength, to mortify and bid adieu to all those sins, by which you have dishonoured your glorious Maker? You see, Sir, what wages Satan gives; *death* even in this world, and alas! *eternal death* in the world to come. GOD keep you from this second death, and then temporal shame will be but little. The way you know; JESUS is the way, the truth, and the life. He is mighty, and willing to save to the uttermost all that come to the Father in and through him. Come then, dear Sir, and throw yourself at the feet of his mercy. He will not only pardon, but abundantly pardon you. In JESUS CHRIST there is a fountain opened for sin and for all uncleanness. "Wash ye, make ye clean," is the call of GOD to all, and now the particular call of GOD to you. May the Spirit of the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS, bring it home to your soul, and make it effectual to your thorough conversion! Let this be your sole care. For this and this only is the one thing needful. As for seeing Mrs. ———, if I was to advise (as it hath been hitherto deferred) I would have you both decline it a little longer. Wait and see the issue of your trial; she

ſhe can do you no good, and by coming may do herſelf harm. But this is a tender point. May Providence point out what is beſt! If we acknowledge the LORD, we have a promiſe, "that he will direct us in all our ways." I commend you to his never-failing mercy, and beg you to accept this from, dear Sir,

Your ſympathizing friend and ſervant
for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXXIII.

To Lady H——n.

Ever-honoured Madam, *London, Feb.* 26, 1751.

YOUR Ladyſhip's kind letter, which came to hand yeſterday, was an unexpected as well as undeſerved favour, and for which I return your Ladyſhip ten thouſand thanks. Surely the LORD of all lords will at length anſwer the prayers of his people, and raiſe you up to the joy of many ſouls. It would rejoice your Ladyſhip much to ſee what has been doing here. I have not known a more conſiderable awakening for a long time. The LORD comes down as in the days of old, and the ſhout of a king is amongſt us. Praiſe the LORD, O my ſoul! The incloſed, which came from abroad, I believe will give your Ladyſhip ſatisfaction. I think it is an earneſt of good things to come. To-morrow I purpoſe to leave *London*; but whether the rain and wind will permit me is uncertain. I am at preſent quite feveriſh, by my late hurry and fatigue; but GOD is my portion and my confidence for ever. Underneath your Ladyſhip are his everlaſting arms; you cannot ſink with ſuch a prop. Your Ladyſhip muſt be made conqueror, yea more than conqueror, through his love. That, is engaged to bring you through whatever ſufferings may be yet before you. He is faithful, who hath promiſed, "that we ſhall not be tempted above what we are able to bear." This is my daily ſupport. To explain GOD's providence by the promiſe, and not his promiſe by his providence, I find is the only way both to get and to keep our comforts. Above all, I find that looking unto JESUS, is an univerſal, never-failing antidote againſt every evil. This is what your Ladyſhip

knows by happy experience. May you know it more and more so every day and hour! But I fear I weary your Ladyship, and therefore hasten to subscribe myself, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXXIV.

To Mr. ———.

Very dear Sir, *London, March* 1, 1751.

YOUR generous conduct much affects me; it hath drawn me to the throne of grace in your behalf. If any of my poor writings should be rendered either entertaining or beneficial to you, I hope it will make me more thankful to him, who is the father of lights, and from whom every good and perfect gift cometh. Mr. *H*—— writes me word, that his heart is knit to you. I wish the colony affairs may not lie too hard upon him. Whenever he dies, I believe he will die as it were a martyr for the welfare of *Georgia*. He mentions Mr. *H*—— for a magistrate in his stead; if I might advise, nothing should be denied, that might strengthen Mr. *H*——'s hands. I know him to be a tried friend, and one who has the good of that poor province exceedingly at heart. Young *M*——, he thinks, might be ordained for an itinerant preacher among the negroes. A good beginning amongst them might be of vast consequence. Mr. Z—— hath this affair much at heart. I give you these hints to be improved as you think proper. My views to serve *Georgia* are disinterested; so I believe are yours. Such intentions the great Redeemer will own and bless one way or another. I wish I could have my packet from *Westminster*, before I leave town. I think you do right to send the young gentleman to *B*——. If he inquires for Mr. *J*—— *S*—— a merchant, he will be taken care of. *B*—— is no good place however for young men, for there young *B*—— has been hurt. But alas, if people's hearts are not upright, change of place will avail but little. This consideration induces me to send the inclosed. I commit it to your care, and commend your better part to his mercy, who

hath loved and given himself for us. That you may experience all the unsearchable riches of his superabundant grace, is the earnest prayer of, very dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend, and very obliged
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXXV.

To Mr. ——.

Dear Sir, *London, March* 1, 1751.

YOUR acknowledgment for my poor present, is more than it deserved. If it is made of use to your precious soul, I have my desired end. My heart's desire and prayer to GOD is, that his goodness may lead you to a thorough repentance, and that you may have no rest, till you truly believe on JESUS CHRIST. Reformation is not renovation: and unless the heart be totally and thoroughly changed, when the fear of hell and other outward restraints are gone, good impressions will gradually wear off, and the seeming convert return again to folly. The love of CHRIST therefore constrains me, dear Sir, to exhort you to make thorough work of it, and to give all diligence to make your calling and election sure. Now indeed is the accepted time! Surely you may say, "Am I not a brand plucked out of the burning?" Satan will not care that you should leave him without some attacks. When you are abroad, old habits, and old corruptions will strive to renew their ancient acquaintance with you: merry company will endeavour to debauch you, and your grand adversary the devil will labour to render all the amazing mercies you have received, fruitless and abortive.—Be upon your guard. Distrust yourself. Be instant in prayer. Look continually to JESUS, and then as your day is, so shall your strength be. Be pleased to accept this in love. If I may judge of your aspect and letter, you will. Glad shall I be to find you a new creature in *Georgia*. My prayers shall follow you, and I hope ere long we shall meet with our brother and all the redeemed of the LORD in paradise. Be pleased to remember me to Mr. *R*——; and if you would mind me, as the chief

of

of ſinners and leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, when you get acceſs to the throne of grace, you would oblige, dear Sir,

Your real friend for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXXVI.

To the Reverend Mr. H———.

Briſtol, March 17, 1751.

My very dear Friend,

THIS comes with a ſummons from good Lady *H*——, for you to appear in *Briſtol*, and abide for a month or two at my brother's houſe. You muſt not refuſe. The GOD who has carried that elect Lady through ſuch bad roads from *Aſhby* hither, will take care of you, and I am perſuaded you will not repent your journey. Her Ladyſhip made the motion to me, and intends writing herſelf. Bleſſed be GOD, ſhe is much better, and I truſt will do well. She will have nobody to give her the ſacrament unleſs you come. I hope this will find you at the tabernacle houſe, and truſt ſhall hear of your ſiſter's ſafe delivery. My tender and cordial reſpects await her, your dear brother, and his whole houſhold. I ventured the other day to put out a guinea to intereſt for you. It was to releaſe an excellent chriſtian, who by living very hard, and working near twenty hours out of four-and-twenty, had brought himſelf very low. He has a wife and four children, and was above two guineas in debt. I gave one for myſelf and one for you. We ſhall have good intereſt for our money in another world. O for a mind like his, who though he was rich, yet for our ſakes became poor, that we through his poverty might become rich! I have been recommending him this morning, and purpoſe doing ſo again this evening. In *Glouceſterſhire* the word hath been gladly received, and here we have had pleaſant gales. O my dear Sir, follow me with your prayers. The LORD be with your ſpirit. I commend you to his never-failing mercy, and am, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXXVII.

To Mr. B———.

Briſtol, March 22, 1751.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Lately received your laſt kind letter, and am glad to find that you are enabled to joy in tribulation, and to ſay, "Father, not my will, but thine be done." May the LORD increaſe your faith, and if you ſhould be called to give up your *Iſaac*, your dear yoke-fellow, may you, *Aaron* like, hold your peace, and by an undiſſembled reſignation to the divine will, glorify your GOD! My wife has been in pitiable circumſtances for ſome time. The LORD only knows what will be the iſſue of them. This is my comfort, "all things work together for good to thoſe that love GOD." He is the father of mercies, and the GOD of all conſolation. He can bring light out of darkneſs, and cauſe the barren wilderneſs to ſmile. This I truſt will be verified in *Georgia*. Thanks be to GOD, that the time for favouring that Colony ſeems to be come. I think now is the ſeaſon for us to exert our utmoſt for the good of the poor *Ethiopians*. We are told, that even they are ſoon to ſtretch out their hands unto GOD. And who knows but their being ſettled in *Georgia*, may be over-ruled for this great end? As for the lawfulneſs of keeping ſlaves, I have no doubt, ſince I hear of ſome that were bought with *Abraham*'s money, and ſome that were born in his houſe. — And I cannot help thinking, that ſome of thoſe ſervants mentioned by the Apoſtles in their epiſtles, were or had been ſlaves. It is plain, that the *Gibeonites* were doomed to perpetual ſlavery, and though liberty is a ſweet thing to ſuch as are born free, yet to thoſe who never new the ſweets of it, ſlavery perhaps may not be ſo irkſome. However this be, it is plain to a demonſtration, that hot countries cannot be cultivated without negroes. What a flouriſhing country might *Georgia* have been, had the uſe of them been permitted years ago? How many white people have been deſtroyed for want of them, and how many thouſands of pounds ſpent to no purpoſe at all? Had Mr. *Henry* been in *America*, I believe he would have ſeen the lawfulneſs and neceſſity of having negroes there. And thoughi *t* is true, that they are brought in a wrong way from their

their own country, and it is a trade not to be approved of, yet as it will be carried on whether we will or not; I ſhould think myſelf highly favoured if I could purchaſe a good number of them, in order to make their lives comfortable, and lay a foundation for breeding up their poſterity in the nurture and admonition of the LORD. You know, dear Sir, that I had no hand in bringing them into *Georgia*; though my judgment was for it, and ſo much money was yearly ſpent to no purpoſe, and I was ſtrongly importuned thereto, yet I would not have a negro upon my plantation, till the uſe of them was publicly allowed in the colony. Now this is done, dear Sir, let us reaſon no more about it, but diligently improve the preſent opportunity for their inſtruction. The truſtees favour it, and we may never have a like proſpect. It rejoiced my ſoul, to hear that one of my poor negroes in *Carolina* was made a brother in CHRIST. How know we but we may have many ſuch inſtances in *Georgia* ere it be long? By mixing with your people, I truſt many of them will be brought to JESUS, and this conſideration, as to us, ſwallows up all temporal inconveniencies whatſoever. Thus, my dear Sir, I have opened my mind to you on this head; if it ſatisfies you, I ſhall be glad; though I ſuppoſe what holy Mr. Z——*n* has already written, has been ſufficient. His heart ſeems touched with a ſympathy for theſe poor creatures, and in the fall, GOD willing, I intend ſeeing what can be done towards laying a foundation. LORD proſper this work of our hands upon us, proſper thou, O GOD, our handy work! I am now entering upon my ſpring campaign, and long for the time to embark for *Georgia*. This I believe will ſhortly come. Bleſſed be GOD, the work on this ſide increaſes daily. You will help me with your prayers, and you will remember me in the kindeſt manner to your collegue, your wife and dear congregation, and believe me to be, reverend Sir,

Your moſt unworthy, but affectionate brother and
fellow-labourer in the kingdom of our LORD,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCLXXXVIII.

To Mr. H——ly.

Plymouth, March 30, 1751.

My very dear Friend,

I Am perſuaded you was ſurprized to find our elect Lady gone from *Aſhby*, and I was as much ſurprized to ſee her Ladyſhip at *Briſtol*. I hope her journey was of GOD. The waters agree with her wonderfully already, and I truſt ſhe will be reſtored to perfect health. As dear Mr. *H*—— cannot be prevailed upon to come down, if it would any way ſuit you to be with her Ladyſhip a month, it would much refreſh her, and I believe be very agreeable to you. Some pulpits would be open for you, and who knows but you might catch ſome great fiſh in the goſpel net? But I need not enforce this, ſince her Ladyſhip hath written to you herſelf. May the bleſſed Redeemer direct your going in his way! Put up the ſame requeſt for me. I have thoughts of going to *Wales*, *Ireland* and *Scotland*. We have had good ſeaſons in *Glouceſterſhire*, and at *Briſtol*, and the LORD enabled me to ſow ſome goſpel ſeed at *Taunton* and *Wellington* in my way hither. O that ever ſuch a wretch as I ſhould be thus honoured!

If thou excuſe, LORD, *work thy will*
By ſo unfit an inſtrument;
It will at once thy goodneſs ſhew,
And prove thy power omnipotent.

For the preſent adieu. It is a grief to me that I cannot write oftener and longer. I ſuppoſe the death of our prince has affected you. It has given me a ſhock. "The LORD reigneth." That is our comfort. That he may reign more and more every day, and every hour, in our ſouls, is the hearty prayer of, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCLXXXIX.

To Mr. M———.

Dear Sir, *Plymouth, March* 30, 1751.

YOUR letter came safe to hand in due season, but I have been straitened how to answer it. I would write as I preach; I mean I would speak the truth as it is in JESUS, without endeavouring to blacken any denomination whatsoever. I think *Gamaliel*'s advice is good at all times, and in all ages, and our LORD's promise will be fulfilled, "That every plant that our heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." This makes me to bear and forbear with many who widely differ from me both in principles and practice. This, as you observe, dear Sir, you may know by my poor discourses, and I find as yet no reason to alter my sentiments. I doubt not but there are many holy souls among the *M——s*; but their not preaching the law, either as a *Schoolmaster* to shew us the need of CHRIST, or as a *rule of life* after we have closed with him, is what I can in no wise concur with. These seem to be two grand mistakes, and which with their various unscriptural expressions in their hymns, and several superstitious fopperies lately intruded among them, make me to think, they are sadly departed from the simplicity of the gospel. But to their own master they stand or fall. *Exitus acta probat.* My prayer for myself and all GOD's children is, "LORD JESUS, rectify all that is wrong, and bless and prosper all that is right!" I bless GOD, dear Sir, that you are appearing valiant for the truth. You will find more and more by happy experience, that to him that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance. CHRIST never sends a person on a warfare at his own charges. Do not despair of Mr. *G*——. As the love of GOD comes in, the fear of man goes out. By and by I trust he will set his face on a flint. It is high time for some to appear for JESUS. What pain did he endure? What shame did he suffer for us? Strange! that we should be so unwilling to go without the camp, to share with Him in his sacred reproach. Alas, what cowards are we! Dear Sir, let us pray for each other, that we may be strong in the grace which is in the CHRIST JESUS, and never fear what men and devils can say, or do unto us.

CHRIST is worth all, or he is worth nothing. I thank you for your invitation in his great name. If providence ſhould bring me into the North, I hope to wait upon you. At preſent, I am bound for *Wales*. I have good news from abroad, and I believe the work is upon the advance at home. That you may be abundantly bleſſed, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate though unworthy brother in CHRIST,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXC.

To Mr. H——.

Exeter, April 11, 1751.

My very dear Mr. H———,

I Was pleaſed laſt night to find by my wife's letters, that your ſiſter was delivered, and more ſo, becauſe my wife wrote as though you was again under my roof. This I count a great honour, and ſuch a privilege, that I wiſh to have the favour conferred on me as long as I live. Theſe my hands (could they work, and was there occaſion for it,) ſhould readily miniſter to your neceſſities. If my wife ſhould come down to *Briſtol*, pray let not my dear Mr. *H*—— move. If *Molly* ſtays in *London*, ſhe will take care of you; if not, *Polly* and Mr. *D——n* will gladly wait upon you. As I have been under ſome trying exerciſes for this month paſt, I have often wiſhed to ſee you. But my bleſſed maſter hath given me acceſs to himſelf, and he will make me more than conqueror through his love. I find *Luther*'s words truly applicable to myſelf, "He was never employed about any freſh work, but he was either viſited with a fit of ſickneſs or ſome violent temptations." Some good I truſt is to be done this Spring to many ſouls. This Weſtern circuit I believe hath been bleſſed already. I have preached about forty times ſince I left *London*, and have been enabled ſeveral times to ride forty miles in a day. I find that this ſenſibly refreſhes me. I wiſh you could ſay ſo too;—your *Biddeford* friends would then ſee you.—They hold on their way, and long to have a line from you. Old Mr. *W*—— is dead. I providentially met Mr. *T*—— at his ſon's houſe. At *Plymouth* we had ſweet ſeaſons, and on *Tueſday* laſt I met with a young clergyman

man who was awakened under my preaching seven years ago. He hath been at *Cambridge*, and was ordained last Lent by the bishop of *Exeter*. He is followed much, and I suppose will soon be reproached for his master's sake. What cannot JESUS do? I hope you find that he gives you strength to proceed in your book. It is enquired much after. The LORD be with you, and bless your pen, and your heart. I send my hearty love to your brother and whole household, and am, very dear Mr. *H*——,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXCI.

To Lady H———.

Dublin, May 30, 1751.

Ever-honoured Madam,

I Was uneasy that I had no opportunity of writing to your Ladyship a longer letter than my last, at leaving *Wales*; but it could not be avoided, and Mr. *P*—— (to whom I delivered your Ladyship's message) promises to supply my deficiency. I am now at *Dublin*, where I arrived the 24th instant. Mr. *L*—— gladly received me into his house, and I have been enabled to preach twice every day this week. Some seasons have been very powerful indeed, and the congregations increase daily. Last *Sunday* I believe ten thousand heard with great attention. After staying one LORD's day more, I shall set out for a month's circuit, and then purpose going to *Scotland*. I find that providence has wonderfully prepared my way, and over-ruled every thing for my greater acceptance. O that I could be more humble and thankful! Surely here are many converted souls, amongst whom are two or three students, and several soldiers. May the LORD JESUS add to their number daily such as shall be saved! I know not where this will find your Ladyship, but where-ever you are, my heart's desire and prayer to GOD is, that you may have a thriving soul in a healthy body, and be rewarded ten thousand fold for all favours conferred on, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXCII.

To Mr. D——.

Dublin, June 1, 1751.

My very dear Friend,

I Fully propoſed to have written to you from *Wales*, but was prevented by travelling and preaching. In about three weeks, I rode perhaps above five hundred miles, and preached generally twice a day. Congregations were as large as uſual, and I truſt an unuſual power accompanied the word. After being about five days on the water, I arrived here the 24th ult. At firſt the greatneſs and hurry of the place ſurprized me; but thanks be to the LORD of the harveſt, here as well as elſewhere the fields are white ready unto harveſt. I have now preached about fourteen times, and find great freedom in dealing out the bread of life. Congregations are large, and hear as for eternity. Perhaps laſt LORD's day upwards of ten thouſand attended. It much reſembled a *Moor-fields* auditory. Next *Monday*, GOD willing, I leave *Dublin*, and ſet out on a circuit to *Limerick*, *Cork*, *Athlone*, *Waterford*, &c. I now lodge at a banker's, who purpoſes to come to *London* ſhortly. He is a follower of CHRIST, and will be glad of your acquaintance. I purpoſe giving him a letter. Have you heard nothing of Captain *Grant?* I long to hear of his arrival, becauſe I would fain go over with him to *America*. Pray give me the firſt intelligence concerning him. A long journey is before me, but I would be at home every where, and yet never at home, till I come to heaven. There, the wicked will ceaſe from troubling; there, the weary will be at reſt. There, before men and angels will I declare how kind, yea exceeding kind, you and yours have been to, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXCIII.

To Lady H——n.

Athlone, June 10, 1751.

THIS morning I had the wiſhed-for favour and honour of your Ladyſhip's lettter. O that it had acquainted me of your Ladyſhip's better health! But our LORD knows

what is beſt. May patience have its perfect work, and your Ladyſhip come out of the furnace like gold tried ſeven times in the fire! Every day I can ſympathiſe with your Ladyſhip. As the weather grows warmer, my body grows weaker, and my vomitings follow me continually. But all is little enough to keep me down, and prepare me for the ſervice in which I am engaged. My laſt from *Dublin*, acquainted your Ladyſhip of my being owned of GOD there. By a letter from Mr. *L*——, I am informed, that *Dublin* is in a ferment, and that my hearers will be much more numerous at my return. Oh the bleſſedneſs of leaving all for JESUS! For this week paſt, I have been preaching twice almoſt every day in ſome country towns, and yeſterday I ſounded the goſpel trumpet here. Every where, there ſeems to be a ſtirring among the dry bones, and the trembling lamps of GOD's people have been ſupplied with freſh oil. I find, through the many offences that have lately been given, matters were brought to a low ebb. But the cry now is, "Methodiſm is revived again."—Thanks be to GOD, that I have an opportunity of ſhewing my diſintereſtedneſs, and that I preach not for a party of my own, but for the common intereſt of my bleſſed maſter. May he keep me thus minded, and then I am ſure all will go well at laſt. Your Ladyſhip would ſmile, to ſee how the wiſe have been catched in their own craftineſs. O that this good news from a far country may prove a cordial to your Ladyſhip's ſoul! I pity your ſolitary ſtate. I pity the deadneſs of all around you; but your Ladyſhip knows, whoſe brethren did not believe on him; it was even that GOD-man, who ſpoke a parable for this end, that men ought always to pray and not to faint. Happy trials, that drive us to our knees. Ever-honoured Madam, I could enlarge, but muſt not. Your Ladyſhip ſhall hear, GOD willing, how the glorious *Emmanuel* deals with me in *Ireland*. In the mean while, with the warmeſt ſenſe of your Ladyſhip's unmerited favours, I ſubſcribe myſelf, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged and
ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXCIV.

To Mr. Z———.

Honoured Sir, *Limerick, June* 14, 1751.

MY laſt was written on board the *Crawford*, and ſent immediately upon my arrival at *Dublin*. Bleſſed be GOD, the word ran and was glorified there. I preached above fourteen times, and every day great multitudes attended. A friend, ſince my departure, writes me, that the city was in a ferment. For about a week I have been preaching twice a day in ſeveral country towns and villages. At *Athlone* I preached four times, and laſt night was gladly received here at *Limerick*. Every where our LORD hath vouchſafed us his bleſſed preſence. That ſupports me under the heat of the weather, the weakneſs of my body, and the various trials which exerciſe my mind. I am now earneſtly aſking counſel from above. A wide door is open in *Dublin*; but after I have viſited *Cork*, I believe I muſt cut ſhort my circuit, leſt I ſhould have a winter's voyage. I ſhould have been heartily glad to have heard from or ſeen you, but I truſt, honoured Sir, you will have a heart given you to pray for me, and then, one way or another, my way will be made plain before me. Hitherto (thanks be to his free grace) my maſter ſupports and comforts me. He adminiſters ſeed to the ſower, and as far as I can hear, bleſſes it when ſown. O that his mercies humbled me! O that I may never provoke him to leave me, or lay me aſide! Some dreadful offences have been given in *Ireland*, but I truſt all will work for good. My coming was very opportune and providential. May I learn to follow the Lamb blindfold, whitherſoever he ſhall be pleaſed to lead me! Be pleaſed to remember me at his throne, and as heen ables, you ſhall hear, from time to time, how he vouchſafes to deal with, honoured Sir,

Your moſt obliged, affectionate younger
brother, and unworthy fellow-labourer
in our LORD's vineyard,
G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXCV.

To Lady H———.

Ever-honoured Madam, *Cork, June* 19, 1751.

STILL does the father of mercies, and the GOD of all conſolation and comfort, follow me with his bleſſing. Since my laſt from *Athlone*, I have been at *Limerick*, where I preached ſeven times to large and affected auditories. Much freedom of ſpirit did I enjoy there indeed.—Yeſterday I came hither (the ſeat of the late perſecution) and thanks be to GOD, have preached twice to a great body of people, with all quietneſs. Both the Mayor and Sheriff have abſolutely forbidden all mobbing. Now have the people of GOD reſt. O that they may improve it, by walking in the comforts of the Holy Ghoſt! Next week, GOD willing, I ſhall return to *Dublin*, and from thence purpoſe going through the north of *Ireland* to *Scotland*. So long a circuit in this kingdom will be inconvenient for my voyage to *America*; but as divine providence ſeems to point out the way,

Lord at thy bidding I will go,
And gladly to poor ſinners tell,
That they a bleſſed CHRIST *may know,*
That they his peace and joy may feel.

I hope your Ladyſhip enjoys a large ſhare of this, under all your trials. They are great, but greater is he who hath promiſed to make his ſtrength perfect in our weakneſs. I commit your Ladyſhip to his neve-rfailing mercy, and beg the continuance of your fervent prayers in behalf of, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged,
chearful ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXCVI.

To Lady H———.

Ever-honoured Madam, *Dublin, June* 28, 1751.

MY laſt from *Cork*, informed your Ladyſhip of my having preached twice there to large and attentive auditories. From thence I went to *Bandon* and *Kinſale*, where a like

bleſſing attended the word. At my return to *Cork*, I preached five or ſix times more, and every time, both the power of the word and numbers of hearers increaſed. I believe on *Sunday* evening there might be more than three thouſand people. Hundreds prayed for me, when I took my leave, and many of the papiſts ſaid, "if I would ſtay, they would leave their prieſts." After preaching twice in the way, I came here on *Wedneſday* evening, where I have again publiſhed the everlaſting goſpel. Next *Monday*, GOD willing, I ſet out for *Belfaſt*, and hope in about ten days to be in *Scotland*. From thence, by GOD's leave, your Ladyſhip ſhall hear from me again: but what return ſhall I make for your Ladyſhip's two kind letters? I can only repeat my old tribute, my poor but I truſt unfeigned thanks. O for ſincerity! O for a ſimple, diſintereſted heart. I think that low politics are below the children of GOD, and if we will be quiet, our LORD will ſpeak for us. One to whom I had been repreſented in black colours, writes thus from *Dublin* to a preacher in *Cork*,—"What bleſſed ſeaſons have we had ſince Mr. *Whitefield* came,—his coming hath been unſpeakably bleſt to many. Thouſands conſtantly attended the word. His word is attended with power. I never heard a man preach holineſs of heart in a clearer manner.—He powerfully preaches CHRIST for us and in us. I confeſs I had ſtrange ideas about him, but bleſſed be GOD, I have not now. GOD be praiſed that ever I ſaw his face, &c.——" Thus it hath been elſewhere. O that I was humble! O that I was thankful! Not unto me, O LORD, not unto me, but to thy free unmerited grace be all the glory?—May I learn more and more to leave all to GOD, even a GOD in CHRIST! If his cauſe be promoted, my end is anſwered. Let ſouls go where they pleaſe to hear, and welcome. Thanks be to JESUS for giving your Ladyſhip a diſintereſted catholic ſpirit. However afflicted, and in pain on earth, you ſhall ſhine ere long in the kingdom of heaven. CHRIST hath prepared a place for you, and is daily and hourly preparing your Ladyſhip for the place. I am glad you are like to have ſome company. I beg that my moſt hearty reſpects and acknowledgments may find acceptance with them and good Lady *H*——. I hope the waters will agree with the young Ladies. Above all, I pray that they, and the whole circle of your Ladyſhip's relations and friends, may drink plentifully

plentifully of that water, whose streams refresh the city of GOD. I can now add no more, but to subscribe myself, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXCVII.

To Mr. T——.

Dear Mr. T——, *Belfast, July* 4, 1751.

VERY providentially, your kind letter reached me this morning. As I am detained by the importunity of the people, I must snatch a few moments to answer it. Thanks be to the LORD of all Lords, if my poor administrations have been any ways blessed, either to you or others. "Not unto me, not unto me, but unto thy free and unmerited grace, O LORD, be all the glory!" Preaching CHRIST, I find to be the best means of winning sinners, and of building up saints. This done with a single eye and disinterested heart, will make its way through all opposition, and stand fast, when all other schemes built on a legal bottom, and supported by low politics, will fall to the ground. I wish you may have grace given you to act aright in your present circumstances. Let all bitterness and wrath and clamour be put away from you. Go on simply preaching the everlasting gospel; and if rejected for that, and freely discharged from your present connection, I shall do all in my power to promote your usefulness. I suppose, you will hear from other hands what hath been doing in *Dublin*. I hope the LORD of all Lords hath been with us. Thousands flock in this place also, to hear the word preached. I thought to have left *Belfast* to-day, but have complied with the people's earnest requests, to continue in these parts till *Monday*. O for a pilgrim heart with my pilgrim life! At present, I have no thoughts of nestling. Fain would I be kept from flagging in the latter stages of my road. I beg the continuance of your prayers. My prayer to GOD for you and yours is, "that you may live together as heirs of the grace of life, and walk in all the ordinances and commandments of the LORD blameless." You are entered upon a new scene, and will require more grace

grace to act your parts well, than at present you may be aware of: But there is an all-sufficiency in CHRIST, who hath promised, that as our day is, so our strength shall be. I commend you and yours, and all the followers of CHRIST, to his never-failing mercy, and subscribe myself, for his great name's sake, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCXCVIII.

To Lady H———n.

Ever-honoured Madam, *Belfast, July 7, 1751.*

LAST *Monday* about noon I left *Dublin*, but with what concern in respect to many poor weeping souls, cannot well be expressed. On *Wednesday* evening I came hither, and intended to embark immediately for *Scotland*, but the people by their importunity prevailed on me to stay. In about an hour's time, thousands were gathered to hear the word. I preached morning and evening, and since that have preached at *Lisburn*, *Lurgun*, the *Maize*, and *Lambag*, towns and places adjacent. So many attend, and the prospect of doing good is so promising, that I am grieved I came to the north no sooner. The country round about is like *Yorkshire* in *England*, and quite different from the most southern parts of *Ireland*. I am now waiting for a passage to *Scotland*, which I hope to get either to-morrow or on *Tuesday*. From thence your Ladyship shall hear from me again; in the mean while, having preached to many thousands again this morning, I must content myself with praying, that the best of blessings may descend on your Ladyship, and subscribe myself, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful,

obliged, and ready servant, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCXCIX.

To the Reverend Mr. Z——.

Glasgow, July 12, 1751.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

AT length, a good and gracious GOD hath brought me out of *Ireland*, where to the very last, the people heard the gospel gladly. In the northern parts, multitudes attended, and was I not bound for *America*, I would have stayed there much longer. People flock here as usual, and I am enabled to preach twice every day. In about ten days I purpose moving towards *London* in order to embark. How my wife is, I cannot tell, having not heard from her for some time; but I hope she will be resigned. This, this is the cry of my soul,—

Bind, Father, hand and foot thy son,
Nor leave thy work till all be done;
O never let me, LORD, *go free,*
Till all my heart's resign'd to thee.
Then quickly to the altar lead,
And suffer me no more to plead;
No longer with the old Adam *bear,*
Lead on, dear LORD, *consume him there.*

Surely I shall be taken at my word. May JESUS support me in a trying hour! I still beg a continued interest in your prayers,—and hoping this will find you with a thriving soul in a healthy body, I subscribe myself, honoured Sir,

Your most obliged, affectionate, though unworthy
younger brother, in the glorious Gospel,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCC.

To Lady H——.

Ever-honoured Madam, Glasgow, July 12, 1751.

I Think it long ere I send your Ladyship another letter.—My last was from *Belfast*, where I preached twice on yesterday sevennight, and immediately after took shipping and arrived the next evening at *Erwin*. On *Wednesday* morning, at the desire of the magistrates, I preached to a great congregation, and ever since have been preaching twice every day in

this city. Thousands attend every morning and evening. They seem never to be weary, and I am more followed than ever. Though I preached near eighty times in *Ireland*, and GOD was pleased to bless his word, yet *Scotland* seems to be a new world to me. To see the people bring so many bibles, turn to every passage, when I am expounding, and hang as it were upon me to hear every word, is very encouraging. I feel uncommon freedom of heart here, and talking with the winter, as well as summer saints, feeds and delights my heart. My body is kept pretty healthy, and my voice greatly strengthened, so that I think GOD is preparing me for more work, or that some trial is at hand. This I suppose will find your Ladyship yet in the furnace, but CHRIST is in the midst of the bush, and in the fiery furnace too; he will quench the violence of the flames, or cause the fire of his love to burn higher. I could enlarge, but am straitened. Some ministers wait for me. Your Ladyship would be delighted with our morning and evening auditories. This day in the church we have had a blessed feast. To-morrow I take my leave, and then for *Edinburgh*. There I expect to stay near a fortnight. Glad shall I be to hear of your Ladyship's welfare. You have always my poor prayers, and my poor, but hearty thanks; being, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged,
and ready servant, for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCI.

To Mr. M——.

Edinburgh, July 29, 1751.

THROUGH the tender mercies of a never-failing Redeemer, I came here safe yesterday noon. In the evening, and this morning, I preached the everlasting gospel to thronged auditories, and met with a very kind reception from my friends. LORD make me humble, LORD JESUS make me truly thankful! As his interest seems to be concerned, and the King's business requires haste, I take this first opportunity of writing about the *Virginia* affair. In that province, there has been for some years past, a great awakening, especially in *Hanover* county, and the countries adjacent. As the ministers

ters of the eſtabliſhment did not favour the work, and the firſt awakened perſons put themſelves under the care of the *New-York* ſynod, the poor people were from time to time fined, and very much harraſſed for not attending on the church ſervice:—And as the awakening was ſuppoſed to be begun by the reading of my books, at the inſtigation of the council a proclamation was iſſued out to prohibit itinerant preaching. However, before I left *Virginia*, one Mr. *D*—— (an excellent young man) was licenſed, and ſettled over a congregation. Since that, the awakening has increaſed, ſo that Mr. *D*—— writes, "that one congregation is multiplied to ſeven." He deſires liberty to licenſe more houſes, and to preach occaſionally to all, as there is no miniſter but himſelf. This, though allowed of in *England*, is denied in *Virginia*, which grieves the people very much. The commiſſary is one of the council, and with the reſt of his brethren, I believe no friend to the Diſſenters. The late Lieutenant-Governor was like-minded.—I therefore think that Mr. *D*—— is raiſed up to ſucceed him, in order to befriend the church of GOD, and the intereſt of CHRIST's people. They deſire no other privileges than what diſſenting proteſtants enjoy in our native country. This I am perſuaded your brother-in-law will be glad to ſecure to them. I ſhall write to Mr. *D*—— to wait upon his Honour immediately after his arrival. I pray the GOD of the ſea, and the GOD of the dry land, to ſend him a ſafe and ſpeedy paſſage, and make him a long and great bleſſing to the inhabitants of *Virginia*. You may improve theſe hints as you pleaſe. I beg the prayers both of yourſelf and dear yoke-fellow, and aſſure you, that neither you nor yours are forgotten by, reverend and dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCII.

To the Reverend Mr. Z——Zinzendorf.

Honoured Sir, *Edinburgh, July* 29, 1751.

SINCE I wrote to you from *Glaſgow*, a never-failing JESUS hath vouchſafed to help me every day in preaching the everlaſting goſpel. The congregations morning and evening amount to many thouſands. People flock more than ever,

and are desirous of my longer stay, but I purpose moving next week. I thank you, honoured Sir, for paying my wife a visit. The inclosed letter I believe helped to make her sick; I have sent it with this: be pleased to keep it to yourself, and let me have the letter at my return. I little thought I was so much behind hand; but GOD will keep me dependent. "Having nothing, yet possessing all things," must be my motto still. Honoured Sir, I hear that a ship is going to *Georgia* with more *Saltzburghers*. Are you concerned? Could I go myself in her? Or could I send two or three little passengers? Mr. *D*—— shall call for an answer to these last questions. I trust, honoured Sir, you are enabled to pray for me. I dread coming to *London*, and think it would be best to part at a distance.—But, Father, not my will, but thine be done! In heaven these trials will be over. LORD, hasten thy coming! Come, LORD JESUS, come quickly! With difficulty I get time to write this. But whether I write or not, you and your collegue are never forgotten by, honoured Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCIII.

To Lady H——.

Edinburgh, July. 30, 1751.

Ever-honoured Madam,

I Think it a long time, since I last wrote to your Ladyship. Continual preaching twice a day, and paying and receiving visits, quite prevented my putting pen to paper, as I would have done. However, thanks be to GOD, matters go on in *Scotland* better and better. The parting at *Glasgow* was very sorrowful indeed. Numbers set out from the country, to hear the word, by three or four in the morning. Congregations increase greatly. I now preach twice daily to many thousands. Many of the best rank attend. My body is almost worn out, but in the LORD have I righteousness and strength. I purposed to move as to-morrow, but through the importunity of friends, have been prevailed upon to stay till next *Monday*. O that it may be for a further blessing! I have been to *Musselburgh* to see Captain *G*—— and his Lady.—They hold on.—Mr. *W*—— has been there, and intends setting up societies, which

which I think imprudent. I was glad to hear that your Ladyship was strong in body, and rejoicing in your soul. The joy of the LORD shall be your strength. Letters from *Georgia* inform me, that my family is well. My eyes wait upon JESUS, from whom alone comes all my salvation. He gives me hints, that he will provide. I sometimes wish your Ladyship here. Such composed, thronged, continued, attentive, judicious auditories perhaps were seldom seen. Your Ladyship is often remembered by *Scotch* friends, and never forgotten by, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged,
and ready servant, for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCIV.

To Lady H———n.

Ever-honoured Madam, *Kendal, Aug.* 10, 1751.

AS a good and gracious GOD hath vouchsafed to bring me thus far on my way, I cannot help dropping your Ladyship a few lines. Preaching, bodily weakness, and a variety of business, prevented my writing again before I left *Edinburgh*. O *Edinburgh! Edinburgh!* Surely thou must never be forgotten by me! The longer I stayed, the more eagerly both rich and poor attended on the word preached. Perhaps for near twenty-eight days together in *Glasgow* and *Edinburgh*, I preached to near ten thousand souls every day. It would have melted your Ladyship's heart to have seen us part. Ninety-four pounds were collected for the *Edinburgh* orphans, and I hear of seven or eight students awakened about ten years ago, that are likely to turn out excellent preachers. Praise the LORD, O my soul.—Two of them came with me on the road, and parted with broken hearts. Lord and Lady *L*—— Lothia behaved very respectfully. To the LORD of all Lords be all the glory! I am now on my way to *London*, in order to embark for *America*. Thanks be to GOD, the seed sown in *Kendal* last year hath sprung up, and borne fruit. One woman hath been with me, that seems to have received GOD's pardoning love. I leave it on *Monday*, and hope to be in town on *Saturday*. Glad should I be, to hear of your Ladyship's welfare. I threw up much blood in *Edinburgh*, but riding recruits me.

O that I may begin to work for Him, who bled and died for me! To his moſt tender mercies do I humbly recommend your Ladyſhip, and beg leave, from the very bottom of my heart, to ſubſcribe myſelf, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged and chearful ſervant, for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCV.

To the Reverend Mr. T——.

My very dear Friend, *London, Aug.* 29, 1751.

AT length the ſtruggle is over;—I have been dying daily for ſome time, in taking leave of friends; and this afternoon I expect to go on board the *Antelope*, Captain *Maclelan*, bound for *Georgia*, with *Germans*.—I take ſeveral children with me.—Surely you will ſee the *American* land.—Mr. *E*——, with your other friends, ſeem to concur in thinking that a little travelling would do you ſervice.—May the LORD direct and bleſs you! Will you not write to me by *Cowan?* If my dear friend Mr. *P*—— could ſpeak to that brewer that is ſo well diſpoſed, and he or any other would ſend in *Cowan* a little good beer, it would be acceptable in yonder wilderneſs.—Pray what ſays Mr. *W*——? If he ſhould agree to go over, Mr. *W*—— *R*—— may be applied to for caſh.—I have ſeveral ſweet little ones to put under his care;—GOD's will be done in this alſo! He reigneth, that is my unſpeakable conſolation.—By next ſhip I believe will come a parcel directed to Mr. *T*——, with a folio book, and an hundred pictures of *Aaron* the *Indian* preacher, from good Lady *H*——, who is yet but poorly.—Sixty may be diſpoſed of among *Edinburgh* friends, and forty ſent to Mr. *M*——. The book you are to peruſe, and then it muſt go with the pictures to *Glaſgow*.—Be pleaſed to apprize Mr. *T*—— of it, and deſire him to ſend me a line by *Cowan*.—If poſſible, I will anſwer Mr. *B*—— before we leave the *Downs*. My tender love and thanks await your dear father, family, and all friends. The LORD be with you all, Amen and Amen! My horſes ſold for fourteen pounds. GOD reward my benefactors! Perhaps Mr. *T*—— and Dr. *Doddridge* may go off about the ſame time. *I præ ſequar*. Mr. *H*—— is better. And now, my dear Sir, farewel! Be ſtrong

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in the grace which is in CHRIST JESUS. I commend you to his never-failing mercy, and, for his great name's sake, subscribe myself,

Yours most affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCVI.

To the Reverend Mr. G——.

On board the Antelope, Sept. 2, 1751.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

THOUGH I could not, through hurry of business, write to you on shore, yet I would fain send you a few lines from on board. We are now near the *Downs*, and, I trust, shall sail comfortably on.—The Captain is civil; and the cabin passengers seem to be very agreeable company. Parting seasons of late have been to me dying seasons.—Surely they have broken my very heart: but it is for JESUS, and therefore all is well. Remember, my dear, dear Sir, a floating pilgrim.—If possible, send me a line.—Young Mr. *T——r* knows how to direct. I shall rejoice to hear of your prosperity. Before my embarkation, I ordered forty of *Aaron*'s pictures, and the folio book concerning the *Moravians*, to be sent to Mr. *M———*. They will be committed to the care of Mr. *T——*, in *Edinburgh*. And now, my dear Mr. *G——*, farewel, farewel! The LORD be with you and Mr. *M———*, Mr. *N——*, Mr. *S——*, and all my dear, very dear *Glasgow* friends. I salute you all much in the LORD, and beg the continuance of your most earnest prayers in behalf of, very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our blessed JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCVII.

Dear Sir, *On board the Antelope, Oct.* 6, 1751.

I Have been just writing to one, to whom I know you will gladly convey the inclosed. I must now send you a few lines: may the Redeemer attend them with his blessing! At the great day, you shall know how often you have been re-

membered by me at the throne of grace, this voyage. Bleſſed be GOD, hitherto it has been a ſhort and eaſy one! We are now within a few hundred miles of ſhore; and He that hath hitherto helped, I truſt will help us even to the end. O that the bleſſings beſtowed upon us, may, through the thankſgiving of many, redound to thy glory, O GOD! O that I could do ſomething to promote this! As yet alas! alas! how little have I done! Stir up then, my ſluggiſh ſoul, and begin to exert thyſelf for Him, who hath ſhed his dear and precious heart's blood for thee! O my dear Sir, is it not ſtrange that we ſhould forget this love? Strange, that a little ſilver duſt, ſhould blind our eyes, and divert us from beholding Him, who indeed is altogether lovely! A word to the wiſe is enough. Our LORD hath dealt wonderouſly kind with each of us, with us, and with ours. What ſhall we render unto him? My obligations are much increaſed by the mercies of this voyage. Your kind preſent was very uſeful. I pray the LORD of all lords to reward you ten thouſand-fold. You will remember me to your dear partner, and all enquiring friends. That grace, mercy, and peace may be multiplied on you all, is the earneſt prayer of, dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCVIII.

To Mr. J—— T——.

Bethesda, in Georgia, Nov. 20, 1751.

My dear Mr. T——,

ERE this can reach you, I ſuppoſe you will have heard of our ſafe arrival in *Georgia*; for which, I truſt, you and my other dear friends will be thankful in our behalf. Bleſſed be GOD, I found the Orphan-houſe in as good a ſituation as could be expected. The children have much improved in their learning; and I hope a foundation is now laid for a future uſeful ſeminary. I want to know what anſwer Mr. *W——*'s hath given. I expect letters by *C——*, when I go to *Charles-town* next month. I was there about ten days ago, and had ſome cloſe talk with Mr. *L——*, and ſeveral of Mr. *S——*'s congregation concerning you. All ſeemed to be unanimous,

nimous, in giving you a call. I need only obſerve, that if GOD ſhould direct your courſe to them, you will find a generous, loving people, who will ſtudy to make your labours profitable and delightful to you. I doubt not but in the congregation there are many dear children of GOD. And as there will be ſuch an harmony between you and Mr. *L*——, I hope you will be an happy inſtrument of promoting peace between all parties, and adding ſuch to the church as ſhall be finally ſaved. Very near you, are ſeveral pious miniſters of other denominations, who will be glad to keep up a chriſtian correſpondence with you, and ſtrengthen your hands in the work of the LORD. As far as I can judge of your diſpoſition, and all other concurring circumſtances, your ſituation will be very agreeable to others, and to yourſelf. However, a trial can do no hurt to either ſide. A voyage to ſea, and the ſeeing and converſing with many of GOD's people and miniſters on this ſide the water, will make it worth your while to leave your native country. Travelling improved, will enlarge your ideas, and promote your future uſefulneſs. May the glorious *Emmanuel* direct your goings in his way! If it ſhould appear to be the divine will that you ſhould come over to *Charles-Town*, I am perſuaded, the good old man your father will chearfully let his *Benjamin* go; and he will find his bleſſed Maſter to be better to him than ſeven ſons. Pray ſalute him and all dear friends in the kindeſt manner. I would write to many, but as yet have not time. Brethren, pray for us. My very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCIX.

To Mr. K——.

Charles-Town, Dec. 26, 1751.

My dear Mr. K——,

MAY this find you getting out of your eclipſe, and determining, through the ſtrength of CHRIST, that the earth ſhall never get in between your ſoul and the Son of Righteouſneſs any more! What mercies, ſignal mercies hath the LORD JESUS conferred on you and me! What ſhall we render unto the LORD? Shall we not give him our whole

hearts? O let us not follow afar off. Let his love conſtrain us to an holy, univerſal, chearful obedience to all his commands. You have a wife that will provoke you to love, and to good works. Make much of her; and preſent her, and your mother, and all her children, with my moſt cordial ſalutations. I do not forget them, or you, or dear Mr. *R*——. For CHRIST's ſake forget not unworthy me. I am now returning to the Orphan-houſe, which I truſt will be like the burning buſh indeed. My poor labours are accepted here; and in the Spring I purpoſe going to the *Bermudas*. JESUS is very good to me. Help me to praiſe him; and believe me to be, my dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCX.

To Mr. William L——.

Very dear Sir, *Betheſda, Jan* 25, 1752.

MAN appoints, but GOD diſappoints. Though we miſſed ſeeing each other on earth, yet if JESUS CHRIST be our life, we ſhall meet never to part again in the kingdom of Heaven. Your kind letter found me employed for the fatherleſs, in this wilderneſs, and am almoſt ready to enter upon my Spring campaign. The news from *Ireland*, does not at all ſurprize me. Weak minds ſoon grow giddy with power; and then they become peſts, inſtead of helps to the church of GOD. You have done well, dear Sir, not to deſiſt from doing good, on account of ſome rubs you meet with in the way. *Benefacere et male pati, vere chriſtianum eſt.* Go on, therefore, to lay up treaſures in heaven; and let the world ſee, that you have been with JESUS, by imitating him in going about doing good. I intend, by his aſſiſtance, now to begin; for as yet alas! I have done nothing. Continue to pray for me; and be pleaſed to aſſure our *Iriſh* friends, that they are not forgotten by me. Who knows but I may ſee them once more on this ſide eternity? As ſoon as poſſible, ſome of them ſhall hear from me. Thanks be to GOD, the Orphan-houſe flouriſhes. That the work of CHRIST may flouriſh amongſt all perſons of all denominations, and that you and yours may be always abound-

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ing in the work of the LORD, is the earneſt prayer of, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXI.

To the Rev. Mr. H———.

My very dear Friend, *Charles-Town, Feb.* 1, 1752.

I Long to write to, and inform you, that I love you in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, and earneſtly pray, that you may go on from ſtrength to ſtrength, and increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. This leaves unworthy me, endeavouring to do ſomething for Him on this ſide the water. Glory be to his great name, he cauſes his work to proſper in my worthleſs hands. The Orphan-houſe is in a flouriſhing way, and I hope will yet become a uſeful ſeminary. My poor labours in this place meet with acceptance; and after one more trip to *Georgia*, I purpoſe ſetting out upon my Spring campaign. Follow me with your prayers; and who knows but we may meet once more on this ſide heaven. Our dear Mr. *H*—— I find is to be detained longer from thence. I think he will live to bury many ſtronger men. I wiſh *Liſbon* may be bleſſed to Dr. *D*———; and O how do I wiſh that dear Dr. *S*—— was fully employed in preaching the everlaſting goſpel! Pray ſalute him tenderly in my name, and beg him to renounce the world for CHRIST. I hope you both write to, and ſee our good Lady *H*———*n* frequently. I was rejoiced to hear, from my dear yoke-fellow, that her Ladyſhip was bravely: this was joy indeed. May ſhe long live to be a bleſſing! That is all in all. O that I may begin to be in earneſt! It is a new year; GOD quicken my tardy pace, and help me to do much work in a little time! This is my higheſt ambition. The LORD JESUS fill me with this ambition more and more! For the preſent, adieu. Accept this as a token of your not being forgotten by, reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our dear LORD JESUS,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXII.

To Mr. S—— C——.

Charles-Town, Feb. 5, 1752.

AS I love you moſt tenderly in the bowels of JESUS CHRIST, you may eaſily gueſs, what great pleaſure both your kind letters gave me. They came attended with a great bleſſing, and knit my heart, if poſſible, nearer to you than ever. Part of the firſt, indeed, I mean that which reſpected the Tabernacle-houſe, gave me uneaſineſs; but your laſt removed it, and made me thankful to our common Redeemer, who in ſpite of all oppoſition, I find will cauſe his word to run and be glorified. Poor Mr. *W*—— is ſtriving againſt the ſtream; ſtrong aſſertions will not go for proofs, with thoſe who are acquainted with the divine life, and are ſealed by the Holy Spirit even to the day of redemption. They know, that their ſtock is now put into ſafe hands; that the covenant of grace is not built upon the faithfulneſs of a poor fallible, changeable creature, but upon the never-failing faithfulneſs of an unchangeable GOD. This is the foundation whereon I build. "LORD JESUS, I believe, help my unbelief! Having once loved me, thou wilt love me to the end; thou wilt keep that ſafe, which I have committed unto thee: eſtabliſh thy people more and more in this glorious truth; and grant that it may have this bleſſed effect upon us all, that we may love thee more, and ſerve thee better!" All truths, unleſs productive of holineſs and love, are of no avail. They may float upon the ſurface of the underſtanding; but this is to no purpoſe, unleſs they transform the heart. This, I truſt, the dear Tabernacle preachers and people will always have deeply impreſſed upon their minds. Let us not diſpute, but love. Truth is great, and will prevail. I am quite willing that all our hearers ſhall hear for themſelves. The Spirit of CHRIST is a Spirit of liberty. You remember what I have often told you about *Calvin*. He was turned out of *Geneva* for ſeveral years; but in leſs than twelve years time they wiſhed for their *Calvin* again. But what is *Calvin*, or what is *Luther?* Let us look above names and parties; let JESUS, the ever-loving, the ever-lovely JESUS, be our all in all.—So that he

he be preached, and his divine image ſtamped more and more upon people's ſouls, I care not who is uppermoſt. I know my place, (LORD JESUS enable me to keep it!) even to be the ſervant of all. I want not to have a people called after my name, and therefore I act as I do. The cauſe is CHRIST's, and he will take care of it. I rejoice that you go on ſo well at the Tabernacle. May the ſhout of a king be always in the midſt of you, and the glory of GOD be your reward. I am apt to believe you will pray me over. But future things belong to him, whoſe I am, and whom I endeavour to ſerve. After one more trip to the Orphan-houſe, I purpoſe going to the *Northward*, where I expect more letters by Captain *Grant*. Thanks be to GOD, all is well at *Bethesda*. A moſt excellent tract of land is granted to me very near the houſe, which in a few years I hope will make a ſufficient proviſion for it. Pray give my tendereſt and moſt hearty love to all your dear family, and all the Tabernacle people, and all enquiring friends. Entreat them, I pray you, to be mindful of a poor pilgrim, who night and day is never unmindful of you or them. Doctor *Doddridge* I find is gone; LORD JESUS prepare me to follow after!—With real and great affection, I ſubſcribe myſelf, very dear *Jemmy*,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXIII.

To Mr. J—— H——.

My very dear Friend, *London*, *May* 26, 1752.

HEARING that Mr. *N*—— is to go ſhortly from *Leith*, I cannot help ſending you a few lines. They leave me at *London*, where, through the divine goodneſs, I am ſafely arrived, after a paſſage of near five weeks on board the *Henry*. People have received me with great affection; and I never ſaw the work of GOD go on in a more promiſing way. Thouſands and thouſands hear the goſpel gladly. LORD, what am I? Not unto me, not unto me, but unto thy free grace and unmerited mercy be all the glory! I wiſh I could ſend you good news about your miniſter. But alas! I now almoſt deſpair of procuring one. I waited upon Dr. *G*—— immediately after

after my arrival;—he gave me no hopes. The perſon that was fixed upon, declined it. Several of the large congregations in *London*, beſides many more in the country, are without paſtors: they are obliged to make uſe of our preachers. O that the LORD of the harveſt may thruſt out more labourers into his harveſt! Who can tell but ſome miniſters may be raiſed up at *Bethesda?* At *Midſummer* the King takes *Georgia* into his own hands: bleſſed be GOD for ſending me over at ſuch a juncture. He hath given me already good ſucceſs concerning Mr. *B*——'s ſcheme. I am come to a determination, if I can diſpoſe of *Providence* plantation, to carry all my ſtrength to the Orphan-houſe. May the LORD JESUS proſper more and more this work of our hands upon us! Proſper thou, O GOD, this handy work! I truſt he will. I could enlarge, but have not time. You may expect to hear from me again by Dr. *B*——, whom I expect to ſee next week. Your *Rapin* is bought, and ſhall be ſent with the other; I thank you for the loan of it, and for all other favours. The GOD whom I ſerve, will richly reward both you, and all my other dear *Charles-Town* friends. My very dear Sir, ceaſe not to pray for

Your moſt affectionate, obliged friend,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXIV.

To Mr. T———.

My dear Mr. T——, *London, June* 4, 1752.

I Doubt not of your being directed in your late choice. If we acknowledge GOD in all our ways, he hath promiſed to direct our paths. I pity poor *Carolina*. But what ſhall we ſay? JESUS may do what he will with his own. I muſt look out for a tutor for my orphans. When our LORD's time is come, ſome one or other will be ſtirred up to care for theſe ſheep in yonder wilderneſs. Bleſſed be GOD, it begins to ſmile. You will ſee by the incloſed, what a proſpect I have of providing for *Bethesda*'s future ſupport. The letter was ſent me by Mr. *J*—— *B*——, a worthy chriſtian planter, who is lately come from *Carolina* to ſettle in *Georgia*. He was awakened

awakened at the Orphan-houſe about ten years ago. At *Midſummer*, *Georgia* is to be taken into the Government's hands. It will then be put on the ſame footing with the other provinces; and in all probability will be a flouriſhing province. I am come in the very beſt time. O what a bleſſed thing is it to follow JESUS blindfold! He hath enabled me once more to take the field. The fields ſeem as white as ever; and I never ſaw the Tabernacle ſo well attended. If GOD ſhould ſo direct me, would the middle of *Auguſt* not be too late to come to *Edinburgh?* I cannot well come before. Does Mr. *R*—— go directly for *Charles-Town?* How will he be paid for the Oſſnaburghs he was ſo kind as to ſend over? I would fain ſend a few letters by him. My hearty love to him and his. Ten thouſand thanks to you, for caring ſo friendly for my dear wife in my abſence.—The LORD JESUS will care for you and my other kind friends. She is pretty well, and joins in ſending cordial reſpects and thanks.—My young man returns his. Letters from thoſe you mention, will be very acceptable. I hope to write to ſeveral ſhortly. I muſt now away; but not before I have wiſhed Mr. *Gilleſpie* joy. The Pope I find has turned Preſbyterian. O this power, when got into wrong hands, what miſchief does it occaſion! "The LORD reigns:"—that is enough for us. Adieu. My love to your honoured father, and all dear friends. Accept the ſame in the tendereſt manner from, my dear *Timothy*,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXV.

To Mr. H——.

My very dear Friend, *London, June* 9, 1752.

I Have received and read your manuſcripts; but for me to play the critic on them, would be like holding up a candle to the ſun. However, before I leave town, I will juſt mark a few places as you deſire, and then ſend the manuſcripts to your brother. I foretell their fate: nothing but your ſcenery can ſcreen you. Self will never bear to die, though ſlain in ſo genteel a manner, without ſhewing ſome reſentment againſt its artful murderer. I am glad you have written to *South-*

Audley-ſtreet. You are reſolved not to die in my debt. I think to call your intended purchaſe WESTON, and ſhall take care to remind him by whoſe means he was brought under the everlaſting goſpel. O that Doctor *S*—— may be brought out to preach it! If you do not take the other living yourſelf, I think your giving it to the Doctor is a glorious ſcheme. I lay at your brother's houſe laſt week: your ſiſter ſeemed to love to talk of JESUS CHRIST and her own heart. She got up early, and came after me and my wife to Madam *T*——'s. You know how to improve this hint at a proper ſeaſon. Your brother hath been ſo kind as to let me have the little mare again. My Maſter walked, I ride to preach the glorious goſpel. Whether riding or walking, LORD JESUS, let my whole heart be taken up with thee! Adieu, my deareſt Sir, adieu. Ceaſe not to pray for,

Ever yours whilſt

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXVI.

To Dr. S———.

My dear Doctor, *London, June* 9, 1752.

GLAD ſhall I be to hear that you are a poor deſpiſed preacher of the everlaſting goſpel. I long to direct *to the Reverend Mr. S*——. I believe if you once was gone ſo far that you could not retreat, you would do very well. If Mr. *H*—— does not take the two livings, I think your ſcheme is glorious. May the LORD thruſt you out ſome way or another! I am ſure the harveſt is great: people ſeem more eager than ever to hear the word. May I die preaching! Next *Thurſday* ſe'nnight I leave *London*, and purpoſe to take a long circuit. I ſhould be glad to ſee you in the mean while. O that the love of CHRIST may burn all the love of the world out of your heart! Adieu. Never fear the Biſhop: let your eye be only on the great Shepherd and Biſhop of ſouls! He will make your way plain. I muſt away. Buſineſs obliges me to haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXVII.

To Lady H——.

Ever-honoured Madam, *London, June* 12, 1752.

THIS day about noon I received your Ladyſhip's wiſhed-for letter, which brought me the welcome news of your Ladyſhip's ſafe arrival at *Bath*. May the waters be abundantly bleſſed to the reſtoring of your bodily health, and may the comforts of the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS, fill and refreſh your ſoul! Your Ladyſhip judges right of dear Mr. Z——: he is a bleſſed man, a father in CHRIST indeed? I hope to ſee both him and your Ladyſhip, about the twenty-fourth of this month. Next week, GOD willing, I ſhall go to *Portſmouth*, from thence to *Bath*, then to the Weſt, then to *Wales*, and from thence, may be, to *Scotland* and *Ireland*. O that I could fly from pole to pole publiſhing the everlaſting goſpel! Every day we hear of freſh conqueſts gained. Grace! Grace! Yeſterday I had ſeveral pleaſing particulars told me about *Georgia*. The having my work ſo divided, is a great trial to me; but what is undertaken for GOD, ought to be carried on for him. He can and will do wonders for thoſe who put their truſt in him. O for faith, precious faith! It is all in all. Old times ſeem to be coming about here. My body is much enfeebled, but the joy of the LORD is my ſtrength. Hoping ſhortly to ſee your Ladyſhip proſpering both in ſoul and body, and begging a continual intereſt in your Ladyſhip's prayers, I ſubſcribe myſelf, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXVIII.

To Mr. I——.

Dear Mr. I——, *London, June* 16, 1752.

YOUR laſt letter brought ſtrange things to my ears, and put me upon conſidering how to act. You know, my dear friend, that I hate to head a party, and that it is abſolutely inconſiſtent with my other buſineſs, to take upon me the care of ſocieties in various parts. I therefore cannot pro-

miſe to come to *Ireland* for that purpoſe, neither do I ever intend to engage in building any houſes. My intention is to come your way, but whether it will be this ſummer or not I cannot tell. Mr. *A*—— was very deſirous of ſeeing you and his ſiſter, and goes through *Wales* to *Ireland*. As you ſeem to have taken *Skinner's Alley*, I ſuppoſe he may preach there, and if a larger place could be procured, I doubt not of its being filled. The LORD direct you how to act, ſo as moſt to promote his glory, and the good of ſouls.—I hope you will all, if poſſible, avoid the very appearance of a party ſpirit, and evidence to the world, that the principles we hold are indeed of GOD, by their moulding us more and more into the divine image. This is indeed all in all. I hope the people here are in a growing way. Glory be to GOD, we have happy days. What ſhall we render unto the LORD? All he requires, is our poor hearts. May he have them without reſerve! My hearty love to your wife, Mr. *C*—— and his wife, and all that love CHRIST JESUS in ſincerity. If I am prayed over, come I muſt. The LORD be with you. I am ſo wearied by preaching, &c. that I can ſcarce ſubſcribe myſelf, my dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXIX.

To Mr. L——.

Dear Sir, *Portſmouth, June* 19, 1752.

YOUR kind letter I received immediately after my laſt return to *Scotland*, but I was ſo exceedingly buſied in preparing for my voyage to *America*, that I had not time to anſwer it. Being once more unexpectedly brought back to my native country, I ſend my ſincere, though late acknowledgments, and hope this will find you and yours, fighting the good fight of Faith, and reſolved never to deſiſt, till you have laid hold on eternal life. Let not what has happened, draw off your mind from the Captain of your ſalvation. He is altogether lovely, and worthy of your higheſt regard. But alas! All his ſervants, even the beſt of them, are but weak fallible men at the beſt. Happy they, who by ſeeing the imperfections of the creature, are led to adhere more cloſely to the

the all-sufficient and most adorable Creator. If you and yours are taught this lesson by past occurrences, you will have no reason to complain, but on the contrary will be excited to praise him, who causes, that out of the eater there shall come forth meat, and out of the strong shall come forth sweetness. Be pleased to accept this in love. I send my most cordial respects to your whole self and family, and beg their and your prayers in behalf of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ready
servant, for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXX.

To Mr. T——.

My dear Friend, *Portsmouth, June* 19, 1752.

I Thank you for your very kind letter, and thank the LORD of all Lords for honouring dear Mr. *G*——. Now he will do more good in a week, than before in a year. Where the carcase is, there the eagles will be gathered together. Last *Monday* we sung for him the following lines;

Give him thy strength, O God of power,
Then let winds blow, or thunders roar;
Thy faithful witness shall he be,
'Tis fixed—he can do all through Thee.

How blind is Satan! What does he get by casting out CHRIST's servants? I expect that some great good will come out of these confusions. We wait for thy salvation, O LORD! I hope your soul prospers. I long to see you, and my other *Scotch* friends; but question whether I can come this summer. The LORD direct me to act as shall be most conducive to his glory and the good of souls! We have had blessed seasons in *London*; there I must be again in about a fortnight. On next *Tuesday* the Trustees give up *Georgia* to the King; the King of Kings has appeared for *Bethesda*. I cannot think of seeing it again, till next year. In the mean while you must pray that I may be busy for CHRIST. And in so doing you will strengthen the hands of, my dear, dear friend,

Yours, &c.
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXI.

To Mr. N——.

Very dear Sir, *Briſtol, July* 13, 1752.

I Am quite ſorry to hear that you are ſo much indiſpoſed. But what ſhall we ſay? The LORD JESUS orders all things well. He knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but duſt. As our day is, ſo ſhall our ſtrength be. I ſee more and more, that, like our great Exemplar, we muſt be made perfect through ſufferings. Ere long, the time of reigning will come, and one ſight of the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS, will make amends for all. O glorious proſpect! Well might the apoſtle ſay, "that the ſufferings of this preſent time, are not worthy to be compared with the glory that ſhall be revealed in us." *O gloriam quantam et qualem!* Courage then, my dear Sir; he that cometh will come, and will not tarry. I dare not give vent; buſineſs obliges me to be ſhort. Here, as well as at *London*, the fields are white, ready unto harveſt. This week I paſs over to *Wales*. I am a poor, but happy pilgrim. Thanks be to free grace for it. My dutiful reſpects await good Lady *Jane*, and the young Ladies. Be pleaſed to accept the ſame from, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXII.

To Mr. S——.

My very dear Friend, *Cardiff, July* 17, 1752.

WHEREVER I am, you and yours, you and your kindneſſes, are always upon my heart. I think of them at my down-ſitting and mine up-riſing, and to refreſh myſelf, muſt expreſs my gratitude. Indeed I thank you both ten thouſand times, and as a poor tribute, I ſend you word that the LORD of all Lords is pleaſed to ſmile upon, and bleſs my feeble labours. I was at *Briſtol* four days, and preached nine times. To my great ſurprize, thouſands (very near as many as attended at *Moorfields*) came out every evening to hear the word. A bleſſed influence attended it; and I have

reaſon

reaſon to believe much good was done. Old times ſeemed to be revived again. Praiſe the LORD, O my ſoul! The laſt evening it rained a little, but few moved. I was wet, and contracted a cold and hoarſeneſs; but I truſt, that preaching will cure me again. This is my grand Catholicon. O that I may drop and die in my bleſſed maſter's work!

For this let men revile my name,
I'll ſhun no croſs, I'll fear no ſhame;
All hail reproach, and welcome pain;
Only thy terrors, LORD, *reſtrain.*

I am now entering upon *Wales*. What ſucceſs my Maſter gives me, you may hear ſome time hence. I beg your prayers, that I may be kept from robbing GOD of his glory, or of any more of my precious time. What ſaid my dear Mr. *S*—— when I ſaw him laſt? What!—"You the biggeſt robber? No, no,—I am the man." But thanks be to GOD, as you obſerved, "our judge is our advocate." I thank you for the hint. The LORD give me to improve it! Farewell! I muſt ſoon away, to preach about eight miles off. We have had a comfortable meeting this morning. My tender love to dear Mrs. *S*—— and your little daughter; accept the ſame in the moſt endearing manner from me, who in the ſtrongeſt terms that words can expreſs, am, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXIII.

To Lady H——.

Haverford-weſt, July 25, 1752.

Ever-honoured Madam,

AS this is the firſt day of reſt from journeying, ſince my coming into *Wales*, and alſo the extent of my *Welch* circuit, I muſt not omit ſending your Ladyſhip a few lines. They inform your Ladyſhip of the continued goodneſs of my bleſſed maſter, to the moſt unworthy ſervant he ever ſent forth. As my day, ſo hath my ſtrength been. Abundance of ſouls, eſpecially in *Pembrokeſhire*, have attended; and I hope that ſeed hath been ſown, which will ſpring up to eternal life. On *Monday* next, I ſhall begin to return back, and ſome time this

day sevennight hope to wait upon your Ladyship at *Clifton*. On the following day, I propose to preach at *Bristol*, and the next day shall set out for *Gloucestershire*, to keep an association there. The LORD help me to hold on and hold out unto the end! I dread the thoughts of flagging in the latter stages of my road. JESUS is able to keep me from being either weary or faint in my mind. In him, and in him alone is all my strength found. I hope your Ladyship finds both your bodily and spiritual strength repaired day by day. That you may mount on wings like an eagle, walk and not be weary, hold on and not be faint, is the continual prayer of, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful,
obliged, and ever ready servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXIV.

To Mr. R—— W——.

Dear Sir, *Haverford-west, July* 25, 1752.

I Love and honour you too much, to have let yours lie so long unanswered, had not travelling and preaching prevented me. This is the only quiet day that I have had for a long season. At *London*, the work seemed to be as it were but just beginning. At *Bristol* we had blessed seasons indeed, and in *Wales* the fields are white, ready unto harvest. Had I not been pre-engaged in these parts, I should certainly have come, and mounted my despised throne. I love state too well, especially in *Scotland*, not to take it upon me as often as possible. I think sometimes, that it is almost a pity one cannot have more bodies and more souls. They should all run about, and be employed for JESUS. What an honour to be employed in doing or suffering for him? Happy Mr. *G*——; I fancy he must preach quite well now. I dare say, you had no hand in casting him out; GOD forgive those that had. In heaven there will be none of this stuff. Thanks be to GOD, the church is militant only here below. The LORD help us to fight the good fight of Faith, till we lay hold on life eternal! Dear Mr. *H*—— hath taken up his weapons again; he is now Rector of a parish, and preaches twice every Lord's day. I thank you and yours, for your kind invitation of us to your pleasant

pleasant villa; had I wings I could fly thither to talk of JESUS, and sing an hymn, but the cloud seems to move westward, and I fear my visit to beloved *Scotland* must be deferred till next spring. May the LORD enable me to fill up every hour, every moment with duty! I believe dear Mr. *R*—— had a narrow escape the other day: if with you, pray remember me to him and his, in the kindest manner. I most heartily salute all enquiring friends, beseeching you all, for JESUS CHRIST's sake, never to cease praying for, reverend and very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXV.

To Mr. S——.

My very dear Friend, *Bristol, August* 1, 1752.

SINCE I wrote my last, I have been off my horse but one day. The glorious *Emmanuel* hath carried me through the *Welch* circuit in peace and comfort. In the fortnight past, from my leaving this place, I preached twenty times, and have travelled above three hundred miles. Congregations were very large. Last Lord's day was a high day indeed; the number of hearers at seven in the morning, as well as in the evening, at *Haverford-west*, was almost incredible. The LORD was in the midst of them. My body was weak in speaking to them, but JESUS hath strengthened me again. O that I was humble and thankful! In my way hither, we held an association; there were present about nine clergy, and near forty other labourers. I trust all are born of GOD, and desirous to promote his glory, and his people's good. All was harmony and love. Yesterday I came here. It is fair time, and to-morrow, GOD willing, I purpose to expose the gospel wine and milk to sale. This I have been doing this morning. O that the hearers may be made to come down to the price, and willing to be saved by grace:—GOD knows I have nothing else to depend upon.

Grace!—it's a sweet, a charming theme,
My soul exults at JESU's *name;*
Of him, who did salvation bring,
I could for ever speak and sing.

But how poorly do I ſpeak of and for him? GOD be merciful to me a ſinner? He does ſhow he will have mercy, and therefore it is that I am not conſumed.

If all the world his goodneſs knew,
They muſt adore and love him too.

Bleſſed be GOD for manifeſting himſelf to us, as he doth not unto the world! You will join in crying Grace! Grace! Grace! Love bids me to enlarge, though buſineſs obliges me to be brief. In about ten days I hope to be in *London*. In the mean while, pray accept theſe poor lines as a token of love unfeigned, and of grateful reſpect, from, my very dear friend,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXVI.

To Mr. F——.

Dear Mr. F——, *London, Aug.* 17, 1752.

INCLOSED you have a letter for Mr. *R*——. I hope that promotion will do him no hurt. May GOD help him to make a ſtand againſt vice and prophaneneſs, and to exert his utmoſt efforts in promoting true religion and virtue! This is the whole of man. I find that you grow more and more famous in the learned world. As you have made a pretty conſiderable progreſs in the myſteries of electricity, I would now humbly recommend to your diligent unprejudiced purſuit and ſtudy the myſtery of the new-birth. It is a moſt important, intereſting ſtudy, and when maſtered, will richly anſwer and repay you for all your pains. One at whoſe bar we are ſhortly to appear, hath ſolemnly declared, that without it, "we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven." You will excuſe this freedom. I muſt have *aliquid Chriſti* in all my letters. I am yet a willing pilgrim for his great name ſake, and I truſt a bleſſing attends my poor feeble labours. To the giver of every good gift be all the glory. My reſpects await your whole ſelf, and all enquiring friends, and hoping to ſee you yet once more in this land of the dying, I ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Your very affectionate friend, and obliged ſervant,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXXVII.

To Mr. S——.

Chester in the street, near Newcastle, Aug. 28, 1752.

My very dear Mr. S——,

THUS far hath a good and gracious GOD brought a poor and worthless pilgrim on his way towards *Edinburgh*. Last Lord's day I preached twice at *Lutterworth*, the famous *John Wickliffe*'s parish, and have since received a letter giving me an account of the Redeemer's blessing my poor labours. On the *Monday*, I began in the name of the almighty husbandman, to plow up some fallow ground at *Leicester*; several thousands attended, and some endeavoured to disturb us, but the opposition was nothing like what I expected. In the evening all was hushed, and I trust our LORD left a blessing behind us. In my way to *Lutterworth*, my heart was encouraged by the coming of a young man, who had been awakened under my preaching about four years ago at *Oulney*. He was before that time a bitter scoffer, but hath now been a student for a year and a half under Doctor *Doddridge*, and I believe will be admitted into the *London* academy. You may know more of him hereafter. Is not this as much as to say, "Go forwards.—In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening with-hold not thy hand, since though knowest not which may prosper, this or that." Yes, my blessed JESUS, through thy grace strengthening me, I will continue to go out into the highways and hedges; only vouchsafe to uphold me with thy right hand, and keep me from flagging in the latter stages of my road. I know you will say, *Amen* and *Amen*. This will increase my obligations, which are already more than I can express. GOD will reward both you and yours for them, a thousand fold. Accept repeated thanks for repeated favours, and depend on hearing as often as possible, how the ever-lovely, ever-loving JESUS is pleased to deal with, my very dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXXVIII.

To Mr. B——.

Newcaſtle, Aug. 30, 1752.

My dear Mr. B———.

YOUR laſt kind letter came to hand, only a few days before I left *London*. Buſineſs prevented my anſwering it then: accept a few lines from hence. They leave me on my way to *Scotland*. Thither the cloud ſeemed to move, and I purpoſe to call on you, GOD willing, in my return to *London*. Could you meet me at *Leeds?* I have thoughts of coming that way back. I have written to Mr. *S*——, and as I expect to ſee him, you need ſay nothing about the books. I wrote alſo to Mr. *G*——. A ſhort interview will ſettle every thing. Do not let my friend be ſo ſolicitouſly anxious about perſons or things. "The LORD reigneth," was the anſwer that *Luther* ſent to over-careful *Melanchthon*. Never fear.—Our LORD knows how to over-rule all for good. So that his work goes on, let you and I be content to be forgotten, nay to be trodden under foot, and ſlighted by our own ſpiritual children and friends. This is bitter, but wholſome phyſic. The all-wiſe phyſician I truſt will make us drink it, till every evil, fretful, and uneaſy temper be purged out of us. Let us then, my dear man, chearfully take the cup out of his bleſſed hands, and leave all to Him. A word to the wiſe is enough. I muſt not enlarge. How goes on brother *W——b?* I hope he does not preach in a controverſial way; I ſuppoſe I ſhall ſee him in the North. My ſtay in *Scotland* will be about a month. You may direct for me at *Edinburgh*. I hope that a door is opened at *Leiceſter* and *Lutterworth* for field-preaching. We have had glorious ſeaſons in *Glouceſterſhire* and *London*. O for a good gate in the North! It is harveſt time.—All hands to work. My love to Mrs. *B*—— and all that love CHRIST, whether they think in all things as I do or not. I ſend Mr.——*ly* my cordial reſpects, and beg you to accept the ſame from, my dear Mr. *B*——,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXXIX.

To Lady H——.

Edinburgh, Sept. 22, 1752.

Ever-honoured Madam,

THE day after I wrote to your Ladyſhip, I left *London*, and in my way to *Scotland* I preached twice at *Lutterworth*.—The auditories were very numerous, and very quiet; but at *Leiceſter* ſome turnips were thrown at me during the firſt ſermon; at the ſecond all was huſhed, and I hear ſince that good was done. Some of *Aſhby* ſociety came thither to hear me. At *Aberford* I called on Lady *Margaret*, who behaved very friendly, and enquired much after your Ladyſhip's welfare. At *Newcaſtle* I was, as it were, arreſted to ſtay. I preached four times, and indeed a whole ſhower of divine bleſſings deſcended from heaven on the great congregations. I came hither laſt *Wedneſday* was ſevennight, and have preached twice a day in the open air, to very large and polite auditories. Abundance of the better ſort conſtantly attend. Next *Tueſday* I thought to move, but they have prevailed upon me to ſtay a little longer. I hope the great GOD will give me a uſeful journey back again to *London*. I deſign keeping from thence as long as I can, before I go into my Winter quarters. Alas, how little is to be done even in the Summer ſeaſon! One had need work whilſt it is day; the night comes on a pace, when no man can work. I need not tell your Ladyſhip of this, who are always employed for your GOD. O that the rich and great would learn to copy after your example! Surely all your Ladyſhip's efforts will not be loſt upon them! My heart's deſire and continual prayer to the LORD of all Lords is, that your Ladyſhip may be long continued, and find your rod budding and bloſſoming more and more every day. Hoping to ſend your Ladyſhip more good news in my next, and commending my poor unworthy ſelf to your Ladyſhip's prayers, I beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged and very ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXXX.

To Mr. S——.

Glaſgow, Sept. 29, 1752.

My very dear friend,

AS you are no day out of my thoughts, ſo you muſt needs think it hath ſeemed a long time ſince I wrote to you laſt. But what has hindered me? Not want of love, but opportunity. For this fortnight laſt paſt, I have been preaching twice every day at *Edinburgh*, where a great multitude, as well of polite as common ſort of people, attended continually. I wondered they were not wearied, but the more they heard, the more they ſeemed deſirous of hearing. Many young miniſters and ſtudents were cloſe attendants, and I truſt through grace good has been done. I expected to have left *Scotland* as laſt *Tueſday*, but through the importunity of friends have been prevailed on to come to *Glaſgow*, and ſhall not return for *England* till *Tueſday* ſevennight. Then I hope to begin to preach my way up to *London*. In this bleſſed delightful work, I hope to live and die; I think it is worth dying for. The LORD make me ſenſible of the honour put upon me, and lay me lower at his feet every day, every hour, and every moment! I have here a flaming miniſter that is my friend, and I hear ſweet work is going on in the highlands. Praiſe the LORD, O our ſouls! Incloſed you have a letter from the young ſtudent mentioned in my laſt. I think it is a pity that ſuch a youth, when pious ſtudents are ſo much wanting, ſhould go back to buſineſs for want of a little help. I doubt not but the LORD will provide for him ſome way or other. He generally brings thoſe low, whom he intends to exalt, and make uſe of. I have glad tidings from *Newcaſtle* and *Leiceſter*. Methinks every thing concurs to bid me go out into the highways and hedges.

LORD, *at thy command I'll go,*
And unto ſinners gladly tell,
That they a riſen CHRIST *may know,*
That they the love of CHRIST *may feel.*

This is a heaven upon earth. Of this, I pray the GOD of love to give you and yours a double portion. I know you pray

pray for me. I ſend you and your dear yoke-fellow ten thouſand thanks, and am, my very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXI.

To Madam C———.

Dear Madam, *Glaſgow, Sept.* 29, 1752.

IT is no ſmall pleaſure to me, that providence hath once more opened a way for a further correſpondence with one, who for many years hath been my friend, and ſtrengthened my hands in the work of our common LORD and maſter JESUS CHRIST. He will richly reward you for it in the great day of accounts; though I am perſuaded you think the work itſelf, its own reward. Indeed it is. Bleſſed be GOD, I find CHRIST's ſervice to be perfect freedom. He hath vouchſafed to encourage and comfort me in *Scotland.* At *Edinburgh* great multitudes, among whom were abundance of the better ſort, attended twice every day. After a ſhort continuance here, I am to return to *Edinburgh*, and next *Tueſday* ſevennight purpoſe to ſet out for *England.* Many young miniſters and ſtudents have given cloſe attendance, and I hear of ſeveral perſons that have been brought under deep convictions. As ſoon as they are put into my hands, I intend to ſend you copies of two letters from a High-land ſchoolmaſter, who is honoured of GOD to do much good among the poor Highland children. —By this poſt I have alſo ſent a letter to Mr. *D*———, which I received from a young ſtudent; he wants ſome little aſſiſtance, to help him to go on in his ſtudies, but I did not ſend his letter to you, becauſe he informs me that you had taken one of Mr. *G*———'s ſpiritual children under your care. Bleſſed be GOD, that makes you, Madam, a mother in *Iſrael.* Every ſtudent's name is Legion. Helping one of thoſe, is helping thouſands. I think this young man's caſe, as laid down in the letter, is very remarkable, and matter of praiſe. LORD JESUS add to the bleſſed number, for thy great name's ſake! I have brave news ſent me from *Leiceſter* and *Newcaſtle*, and have ſtrong invitations to *Yorkſhire* and *Lancaſhire.* What a pity is it, that the year goes round ſo ſoon? O my GOD, my GOD

in

in CHRIST, how little can I do for thee! Dear Madam, be pleased to increase my obligations by praying for me. I never forget you or your household, and as a proof of it, promise that you shall hear at all opportunities, from, dear Madam,

Your most affectionate, obliged friend,
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXII.

To Mr. A———.

Dear Mr. A———, *Glasgow, Sept.* 29, 1752.

I Received your kind letter, but till now have not had time to answer it. However, I have not, and, GOD willing, shall not be unmindful of you. I think you have nothing to do, but by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, to make your wants known unto GOD. He careth for you, and will some way or other provide both for soul and body. I have always found him a present help in every time of need. As means ought to be used, I have just written to some *London* friends, who under GOD may serve you. When we meet, you shall hear what success.—The hearts of all are in CHRIST's hands. Wait on him, and your eyes shall behold his great salvation. If he calls you to the ministry, as I hope he does, he will make your way plain. The cloud of his providence shall go before you, and you shall hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it." Though your father should die, and your mother forsake you, the LORD JESUS CHRIST will take you up. Keep close to your GOD, and your book. Prayer, reading, meditation, and temptation make a minister. The LORD be with you. Pray for me, and assure yourself of my being, for CHRIST's sake,

Your affectionate friend and ready servant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXIII.

To G—— P——, Esq;

Dear Sir, *Glasgow, Sept.* 30, 1752.

MR. *S*——, in a letter, insists upon my sending you a few lines: I care not to refuse him, and yet I know not well how to use so much freedom. If it be too great, you will

will excuſe it; it proceeds from love, love to your better part, for I have nothing to write about, but the inviſible realities of another world. Theſe I truſt, dear Sir, you and yours will be experimentally acquainted with more and more every day. Herein lies all our preſent peace, and the only ſolid preparation for future comfort in the coming world. The love of JESUS ſhed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghoſt, is indeed all in all; this is glory begun; this is the opening of the kingdom of heaven in the ſoul; this is a never-failing well of water, which will at laſt ſpring up to life eternal. And yet all this is the gift, the free gift of GOD in CHRIST JESUS. It coſt him dearly, even his own heart's blood, but flows down to us in a free channel; yea and that too even to the very chief of ſinners. Therefore I have hope, and, bleſſed be GOD, good hope through grace. Is not the ſame grace, dear Sir, ſufficient for you and yours? Let us then come boldly to CHRIST's throne. He ſits encircled with a rainbow; his name and his nature is Love. He came into the world, to ſeek and ſave thoſe that feel themſelves loſt; this I truſt you do. Salvation then is juſt coming to your ſoul, even a preſent and great ſalvation. Only believe, and yours is the kingdom of heaven. But whither am I running? I forget myſelf when writing of redeeming love. O, my dear Sir, do not reſt, do not let GOD have any reſt, till your heart is filled with it. It is worth aſking, ſeeking, knocking, and ſtriving for. But I muſt have done. My cordial reſpects await your Lady. That you may both go on hand in hand to heaven, is the hearty prayer of, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and ready
ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXIV.

To Lady H———n.

Newcaſtle, Oct. 15, 1752.

Ever-honoured Madam,

THUS far hath a never-failing Redeemer brought me in my way towards *London*. With all humility and thankfulneſs of heart I deſire to ſet up my *Ebenezer:* for ſurely hitherto hath the LORD helped me. Since my writing laſt to

your Ladyſhip, I went and preached for about a week at *Glaſgow*, where the word of the LORD ran and was glorified. I preached twice a day, and rather more attended than at *Edinburgh*. We had a ſorrowful parting at both places. For about twenty-eight days, I ſuppoſe I did not preach to leſs than ten thouſand every day. This hath weakened my body, but the Redeemer knows how to renew my ſtrength. At preſent, I am as well as a pilgrim can expect to be. About ſeventy pounds were collected for the *Edinburgh* orphans, and I hear that near a dozen young men that were awakened about ten years ago, have ſince entered upon the miniſtry, and are likely to prove very uſeful. Praiſe the LORD, O my ſoul!—In my way hither, I preached at *Berwick*, *Alnwick* and *Morpeth*; and next *Monday*, after preaching at *Sunderland*, as is intended, I am to go into *Yorkſhire*. I know your Ladyſhip wiſhes me much proſperity. That your Ladyſhip may proſper more and more, and be in health both in ſoul and body, is the continual prayer of, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXV.

To Mr. S——.

Sheffield, Nov. 1, 1752.

My very dear Friend,

SINCE I left *Newcaſtle*, I have ſcarce known ſometimes whether I have been in heaven or on earth. At *Leeds*, *Burſtall*, *Howarth*, *Hallifax*, *&c.* thouſands and thouſands have flocked twice and thrice a day to hear the word of life. A gale of divine influence hath every where attended it. I am now come from *Bolton*, *Mancheſter*, *Stockport* and *Chinly*. —Yeſterday I preached in a church, where I believe execution was done. Four ordained miniſters, friends to the work of GOD, have been with me. The word hath run ſo ſwiftly at *Leeds*, that friends are come to fetch me back, and I am now going to *Rotheram*, *Wakefield*, *Leeds*, *York*, and *Epworth*, and purpoſe returning to this place next Lord's day. GOD favours us with weather, and I would fain make hay whilſt the ſun ſhines. My dear Sir, pray follow me with your prayers.

Fain would I spend and be spent for the good of souls. This is my meat and drink. The LORD bless you and yours! I can no more, but only subscribe myself, my very dear friend,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXVI.

To the Reverend Mr. Z———.

Wakefield, Nov. 3, 1752.

Reverend and very dear Sir,

I Have been upwards of three weeks out of *Scotland*, but scarce ever had more encouragement in preaching the everlasting gospel, since the LORD of the harvest was pleased to send me forth into the harvest. At *Newcastle*, *Sunderland*, and several places in *Yorkshire*, *Lancashire*, and *Cheshire*, thousands and thousands have daily attended on the word preached. The glorious *Emmanuel* caused life and power to follow it, and I hear that the arrows have stuck fast in many hearts. The stir hath been so great at *Leeds*, that at the desire of friends, I am returning thither again. From thence I shall go to *York*, and several places in *Lincolnshire*, and am to preach at *Sheffield* next Lord's day. My return to *London* must be determined by the weather. It hath been uncommonly favourable, and methinks it is pity to go into Winter quarters, so long as work can be done in the fields.—O that I had as many tongues, as there are hairs upon my head! The ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS should have them all. Be so good, honoured Sir, to pray that he may not turn me out of his service, but employ me as a poor pilgrim till I die. Fain would I die preaching.—I hear that Mr. *H*—— is gone. The LORD JESUS quicken my tardy pace, and prepare me to follow! I know you say *Amen* in my behalf, and thereby add to the obligations you have already laid upon, honoured and dear Sir,

Your most affectionate, though unworthy son and servant in the glorious gospel,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXVII.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Friend, *London, Nov.* 11, 1752.

THROUGH the good providence of an ever-lovely, ever-loving Redeemer, I came safe hither last night. My *Sunday*'s work, sickness, the change of weather, and affecting parting from friends, so enfeebled this tottering tabernacle, that I was in hopes on the road the imprisoned soul would have been set at liberty, and fled to those blissful regions,

Where pain, and sin, and sorrow cease,
And all is calm and joy and peace.

At *Northampton* I took coach, and am now, blessed be GOD, arrived at my Winter quarters. My poor wife I found an invalid. Our LORD can restore her, for he came to heal our sicknesses, and bear our infirmities. I hope this will meet my dear friend and his wife leaning on this all-sufficient, never-failing *Emmanuel.* I have remembered you ever since my departure, and now, with groanings that cannot be uttered, pray that your souls, and the souls of all the dear people around you, may prosper and increase with all the increase of GOD. O, my dear friend, what manner of love is this, that *we* should be called the sons of GOD! Excuse me. I must pause a while.—My eyes gush out with water. At present they are almost fountains of tears. But thanks be to GOD, they are tears of love. O what shall I do for Him who hath loved and given himself for ill and hell-deserving, ungrateful, unfruitful me! Add to my obligations by praying for me! My unfeigned love to Mr. *L*——. If I can, he shall soon hear from me. With the box for Mr. *G*——, I shall send a few pictures, which you may present to Mr. and Mrs. *N*——, as you think best. O that the blessed and divine image of the adorable JESUS may be stamped in most lively colours on all our hearts! It will, it will. JESUS is the author, and he is also the finisher of our faith. Let us not be faithless but believing. Let us not trust in ourselves, but in him who hath promised never to leave nor forsake us. I can no more.

The LORD be with you and yours.—My hearty love to all that love CHRIST JESUS in sincerity; accept the same in the most tender manner from, my very dear friend,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXVIII.

To Mr. J——.

My dear Friend, *London, Nov.* 11, 1752.

LAST night the glorious *Emmanuel* brought me hither, after having given me and his dear people many blessed seasons in *Scotland*, and the North of *England*. O that with all his other mercies, he may vouchsafe to give me a thankful and humble heart! This morning I have been talking with dear Mr. *A*——, and cannot help thinking, but that you have run before the LORD, in forming yourselves into a public society, as you have done. I was afraid poor Mr. *C*—— would not do. Mr. *A*——'s visit was designed to be transient, and I cannot promise you any settled help from hence. I am sincere, when I profess, that I do not choose to set myself at the head of any party. When I came last to *Ireland*, my intention was to preach the gospel to all.—And if it should ever please the LORD of all Lords to send me thither again, I purpose to pursue the same plan. For I am a debtor to all of all denominations, and have no design, if I know any thing of this desperately wicked and deceitful heart, but to promote the common salvation of mankind. The love of CHRIST constrains me to this. Accept it as wrote from that principle. That He, who is the wonderful counsellor, may in all things direct and rule your hearts, is the earnest prayer of, my dear friend,

Yours most affectionately,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXXXIX.

To the Reverend Mr. H——.

My very dear Friend, *London, Nov.* 14, 1752.

I Am quite ſorry that I miſſed ſeeing you, but glad and thankful that you condeſcended to write to me. I find you are reſolved to outdo me in love; this I would prevent if poſſible. May the glorious JESUS ſhed abroad his love abundantly in your dear heart, by the Holy Ghoſt, and give you to increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD. He will bleſs you for vindicating the honour of his ſacred volumes in your laſt pamphlet, for which, as well as for all other unmerited favours, I moſt heartily thank you. I have juſt now read it, and doubt not of its being greatly bleſſed and owned, and going through many editions. I cannot diſcern any errata or inaccuracies in the compoſition. Surely GOD hath raiſed my dear friend up, to let the polite world ſee how amiable are the doctrines of the goſpel. Why will you weary the world, and your friends, by delaying to publiſh your other long wiſhed-for performance? Glad ſhall I be to peruſe any of the dialogues. The ſavour of the laſt is not of my mind. Pray let them ſee the light this Winter. They will delight and warm many a heart. O that we may have a warm ſeaſon at the Tabernacle! My country circuit was exceedingly delightful. When the weather altered, my health was much affected; but a little reſt hath already in ſome degree repaired it. You and I perhaps are not to ſee heaven as yet: I have waited for it long, but alas! my appointed time is not yet come. Thanks be to GOD, there is ſuch a thing as having a heaven upon earth; CHRIST in us is the heaven of heavens. My dear, very dear friend, good night. I am called away. My love to the Doctor. O that he was wiſe! How glad ſhould I have been to have ſeen dear Mr. *H——!* My kind reſpects await your mother and ſiſter. My wife, who is quite an invalid, joins heartily with me, who am, my very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXL.

My dear Nat, *London, Nov.* 21, 1752.

YOUR letters have all been brought safe to hand, and have given me no small satisfaction. I doubt not but the LORD, whom you seek, will in his own time come and visit the temple of your heart. Fear not, neither be dismayed. Be found in the way of duty; go on feeding his lambs, and you shall find, that the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls will bless and comfort you. I know not of a more profitable situation, that you could be in than at present. Next year, GOD willing, you will have a fellow-student. I have agreed with him, as I wrote you from *Edinburgh*, for three years at least. I am of your mind in respect to boarders. As affairs stand, I think the less the family is at present, the better. Nothing seems to be wanted but a good overseer, to instruct the negroes in sawing and planting. Let me know how Mr. *M*—— behaves, and whether the Lumber trade is begun. I have consented to Mr. *E*——'s going to Mr. Z——, and to *Margaret*'s leaving *Bethesda*. You will see what I have wrote to Mrs. *W*——. Pray make *George* and the children to write often. He should not have written to me, *Honoured Master*, but—*Sir*. I am glad to hear that some of the children promise well. Surely some good will in the end come out of that institution. I am only afraid of its growing too great one day or another, in a worldly way. O that I may be directed to such managers, that will act with a single eye to GOD's glory, and his people's good! I have great confidence in you. I am glad you live in peace. May the Prince of peace cause his grace and mercy to be multiplied upon you! I shall be glad to live to see you a preacher. It is a delightful employment, when done out of love to JESUS: that sweetens all. In about ten weeks I have travelled above a thousand miles, and was enabled to preach sometimes twice and thrice a day to many thousands. I trust a great blessing was left behind with the word preached. O that *Georgia*'s wilderness may blossom like a rose! It will, when GOD's set time is come. Never mind a few evil reports. No one need be ashamed of *Bethesda* children. Blessed be GOD, they are taken care of, and the LORD

will reward you. Ah my dear *Nat*, you are highly honoured. I hope you often bow down before the bleſſed Redeemer, and out of the fulneſs of your heart ſay, "Why me, LORD? why me?" Pray, pray, I beſeech you continually, that you may be cloathed with humility. How many young men have I known ruined for the want of it! "GOD reſiſteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." Pray that I may have an humble and thankful heart. I would vie with a ſeraph, if I could, in humility and thankfulneſs. Adieu. The LORD be with you! My wife ſends her love; accept the ſame from, my dear *Nat*,

Your moſt aſſured friend for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLI.

To Mr. V—— B——.

London, Nov. 22, 1752.

My dear Mr. V—— B——,

I Hope this will find you and your yoke-fellow parents of a living and well formed child. May the Redeemer ſanctify it from the womb, and cauſe it to live to his glory, and your comfort! I ſee you are taught to live more and more by faith. This may be tried, but never diſappointed. The LORD JESUS never did, and never will forſake thoſe who put their truſt in him. I believe Mrs. *W*—— will not ſuffer you or yours to want any thing that *Betheſda* affords. I thank you for your kind offer, but ſuppoſe ere now you have been enabled to purchaſe ſome negroes, and go upon your own land. If not, I have written to Mr. *B*—— to make what agreement you ſhall mutually judge to be moſt proper: I cannot ſay more at this diſtance. It is hard to determine any thing four thouſand miles off. GOD willing, I hope to ſee you next year; though it is difficult to leave thouſands and ten thouſands, who gladly receive the goſpel, to come to a wilderneſs, where it has been, alas! too, too often moſt wretchedly deſpiſed, and ſlighted by many. But I truſt we ſhall yet ſee better times. Happy they who have learned to live on JESUS; and by keeping up a daily and hourly fellowſhip with him, can maintain a comfortable frame, when

when all is cold and dead around them. This is the happiness I wish my dear Mr. *B*——. May it increase day by day, moment after moment! Then, if we never should see each other again on earth, we shall meet, never to part again, in the kingdom of heaven. I am endeavouring to call as many thither as I can. Power seems to attend it, and many seem to have their faces set *Zion-ward*. May they and we be kept from looking back! JESUS is able to keep us. To his almighty never-failing mercy do I commend you, as being, my dear Sir, for CHRIST's sake,

Your most affectionate friend, brother, and servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLII.

To Mr. L——.

My dear Friend, *London, Nov.* 28, 1752.

YOUR letter came safe to hand yesterday. The contents of it humbled and gladdened me, and led me directly to my knees, to intercede for you and yours, and all the dear people at *Leeds*, who are either seeking after, or have actually found redemption in the blood of JESUS. Many here, blessed be GOD, are in like circumstances. Our LORD seems to ride triumphantly on in the chariot of his everlasting gospel; and the shout of a king is indeed amongst us. Blessed are the eyes that see the things which we see. What shall we render unto the LORD? Our two mites, a vile body, and a sinful soul, are all that he requires: and shall he not have these? Yes, I trust the language of both our hearts is this:

Be gone, vain world, my heart resign,
For I must be no longer thine;
A nobler, a diviner guest,
Now claims possession of my breast.

As this is your case, I wonder not at your being so solicitous for your dear children's welfare. The LORD give you faith and patience, and help you in every respect so to behave, that you may win them over to the choice of true and undefiled religion! Courage, my dear brother, courage.—Who knows,

but they may be made willing in a day of the Redeemer's power? He that hath given your dear yoke-fellow a heart to seek after the pearl of great price, can make your children like-minded. But faith must be tried, patience must be exercised, and our stubborn will brought into a chearful resignation to the holy sovereign will and good pleasure of GOD.

What though thou rulest not,
Yet heaven, and earth and hell
Proclaim GOD *sitteth on the throne,*
And ordereth all things well.

A variety of business prevents my enlarging. I should not have troubled you with such a speedy answer, had you not seemed to desire it, as a token of my love. I think it is cordial and unfeigned. None of you are forgotten by me before the throne. There, my dear friend, let us meet often. Remember it is a throne of grace; we may, therefore, come with boldness. JESUS is our advocate, even JESUS CHRIST the righteous. I thank you ten thousand times for all respect shewn me for his great name's sake, and command you (since love will make you wait for orders) to believe me to be, my dear Sir,

Your very affectionate friend, brother, and ready
servant in our common but dearest LORD,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLIII.

To Mr. ———.

My dear Friend, *London, Dec.* 5, 1752.

HOW does love meet love! Your long expected letter came last night, and as the box of books hath been gone some days, I answer you before day this morning. My dear friend, good-morrow! Blessed be GOD, that the day dawns, and that the day-star hath risen in your heart. May the Redeemer give you a *Benjamin*'s mess every hour! He is our great *Joseph*, and loves to say to his guilty brethren, "Come near me." Out of his fulness we may all receive even grace for grace. O how does he continually watch over us for good! I thought the obstructions that lay in my way to *York*, were

not

not for nothing. Our times are in our LORD's hands. We are immortal till our work is done. This, this ſhall be the cry of my ſoul:

LORD, *at thy command I'll go,*
And to the world will gladly tell,
That they a riſen CHRIST *may know,*
That they the love of CHRIST *may feel.*

Aſſured of ſuch a bidding, we may ſay with *Luther*, "If there was as many devils lying in wait, as there are tiles on the houſes, we need not fear." Who knows but in Spring we may have a fair field fight? We can do all things through CHRIST ſtrengthening us. Methinks I long to range in your parts, and come to *Leeds* again. The perſons mentioned need not bid me to remember them. I cannot forget either them or you night or day. O that we may make ſome large advances in the divine life, before we ſee each other. When will that be? Perhaps in Spring; perhaps not till we meet in heaven.

There we ſhall ſee CHRIST's *face,*
And never, never ſin;
There, from the riches of his grace,
Drink endleſs pleaſures in.

Haſten, LORD, that bleſſed time! Till then, grant us, we beſeech thee, an heaven upon earth! Such we have at the Tabernacle indeed. Laſt Lord's-day we had, if poſſible, a more bleſſed ſacrament than the former.

How ſweet, how awful was the place,
With CHRIST *within the doors,*
When everlaſting Love diſplay'd,
The choiceſt of his ſtores!

I muſt break off this delightful ſubject. Farewel. Pray for us. Remember me in the kindeſt manner to all. My wife heartily joins with

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER

LETTER DCCCCXLIV.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Brother, *London, Dec. 9, 1752.*

IF your heart was full, ſo was mine when we parted. Such ſeaſons make me long for that happy time when we ſhall neither part from each other, nor depart from the bleſſed JESUS any more. Our wanderings and toſſings, fightings without, and fears within, will then all be over. Here the church is, and will be militant; in heaven it ſhall be altogether triumphant. Let us go on, my dear brother, fighting the good fight of faith. Ere long we ſhall be called to lay hold on life eternal. CHRIST is our captain; we are therefore aſſured of conqueſt.

A feeble ſaint ſhall win the day,
Though death and hell obſtruct the way.

Endeavour to obſtruct they will, and young converts little know how reſolutely, how unwearyedly. The way to heaven is a round-about way: we muſt go through a wilderneſs. GOD ſuffers this, to prove and try us, and to ſhew us what is in our hearts. Humility muſt be taught us, as *Gideon* taught the men of *Succoth*, with briars and thorns: theſe will frequently fetch blood from the old man. O that we may be made willing to have him bleed to death! "Away with him, away with him; crucify him, crucify him." May this be the language of your heart and mine! To have this prayer anſwered, what trials muſt we neceſſarily meet with from the devil, the world, the fleſh, and even from GOD's own children? All little enough to lead us into that mortified, pacific, reſigned, and diſintereſted mind, which was in CHRIST JESUS. The more we ſuffer, and the leſs we are eſteemed for doing, or attempting to do good for his great name's ſake, the more we are conformed to his bleſſed example. In heaven, juſtice will be done to all. Strange! that we cannot wait more patiently till the great day of retribution. LORD, help us to walk more by faith, and leſs by ſenſe! "Help, O help us to leave ourſelves and all with thee." I know you will ſay, *Amen!*" But I forget myſelf. How willingly does the pen write, when

when love, love for CHRIST's ſake dictates and indites! I thank you for enquiring after my welfare: thanks be to GOD, I am as well as a poor, but happy pilgrim can expect to be. The ſhout of a king is amongſt us. The glory of the LORD fills the Tabernacle; and we hear every day of perſons brought under freſh awakenings, as well as of GOD's people being comforted. We have had two moſt awful ſacramental occaſions. Help me to cry, Grace! grace! I ſhall be glad to hear that the goſpel runs and is glorified at *Wakefield*. Who knows but the laſt may be yet firſt? Is any thing too hard for the LORD? Continue to remember us at the throne of grace; and accept this ſpeedy anſwer as a token of reſpect and love unfeigned, from, my dear brother,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLV.

To Lady H———n.

Ever-honoured Madam, *London, Dec.* 15, 1752.

I Think it a long time ſince I heard from, or wrote to your Ladyſhip. My hands are full of work; and I truſt I can ſay, the LORD of all lords cauſes his work to proſper in my unworthy hands. More bleſſed ſeaſons we never enjoyed. Our ſacramental occaſions have been exceedingly awful and refreſhing. I cannot help crying out night and day, Grace! grace! Laſt week we had another repaſt in *South Audley-ſtreet*. Lady *F*—— grows ſurprizingly. She increaſes much in the knowledge of herſelf, and of JESUS CHRIST. May ſhe and all that profeſs to love him, increaſe with all the increaſe of GOD! I have glorious news from *Yorkſhire*. Incloſed your Ladyſhip hath a letter, which I hope will pleaſe you. Ships will be going to *Philadelphia* ſoon after *Chriſtmas*. Has your Ladyſhip read the awful account of the hurricane in *South-Carolina?* I do not find that it hath reached *Georgia*. Happy they who have laid up treaſure in heaven, and have fled to CHRIST for refuge; ſuch are ſafe from every ſtorm. This is your Ladyſhip's happineſs; and bleſſed be GOD, this is the happineſs of unworthy, ill, and hell-deſerving me. LORD, why am I a gueſt?

Through

Through all eternity to Thee,
A grateful song I'll raise;
But O eternity's too short,
To utter all thy praise.

Business prevents my enlarging.—I commend your Ladyship, and all your concerns, to the tender mercies of a never-failing Redeemer; and beg leave to subscribe myself, with all possible gratitude and respect, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged,
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLVI.

To Mrs. K——.

Dear Mrs. K——, *London, Dec.* 16, 1752.

YOUR kind letter lies by me unanswered, because I had written to your dear husband just before it came to hand. Ere now I hope he hath received it with the books, and is with you, and the other true followers of our most adorable Redeemer, pressing forwards towards the mark of the prize of our high calling in CHRIST JESUS. O that nothing may hinder us in this heavenly race! O that we may remember *Lot*'s wife, and never look back! Alas! what is there in this world worth looking back upon? It is nothing, less than nothing. Thanks be to that precious CHRIST, who hath redeemed us out of it. To Him that hath thus loved us, be ascribed all honour and glory now and for ever! My obligations to bless and magnify our LORD increase daily. It would delight you to see, how his glory is manifested among his poor despised ones. To-morrow we are again to celebrate the memorials of his dying love. O that we may be prepared according to the preparation of the sanctuary! Blessed be GOD for a compleat and an everlasting righteousness to appear in; this is the wedding garment; this every poor sinner is cloathed with, that truly puts on the LORD JESUS. Well may such despise outward ornaments, and trample upon the pride of life. Such things are food only for those that know not GOD. Go on then, dear Mrs. *K*——; go on, all ye my female fellow-soldiers, who are listed under the Redeemer's banner.

banner. As your day is, so shall your strength be. Look up continually to JESUS; and be so good as always to remember, when before his throne,

Your assured friend and ready servant,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLVII.

To Governor B———. Belcher

Honoured Sir, *London, Dec. 20, 1752.*

WITH great pleasure and satisfaction, I received and read your kind letter, and took the first opportunity of transmitting the inclosed to good Lady *H———n*, who is now near *Bristol*. If the ship which brings this, doth not sail soon, I believe your Excellency will have an answer by the same conveyance. She is an elect lady indeed; one who hath fairly renounced the world, and scorns to divide her affections between it and her GOD. Her Ladyship corresponds with the Dutchess of ———, but I fear that the latter doth not glory in the cross of CHRIST, so much as might be wish'd. You know, honoured Sir, that we must have true self-denial, and a disinterested spirit, before we can be sincerely willing to be accounted fools for CHRIST's sake. And yet there is no going to heaven without it. Blessed be GOD, your fight, honoured Sir, is almost over; the days are now coming wherein you must necessarily say, "I have no pleasure in them." The 71st psalm, translated by Dr. *Watts*, seems to be sweetly adapted to your circumstances. Part of it was lately sung for your Excellency, by many true followers of the Lamb.

I.

Still hath his life new wonders seen,
Repeated every year;
Behold his days which yet remain,
We trust them to thy care.

II.

Cast him not off, should health decline,
Or hoary hairs arise;
And round him let thy glories shine,
Whene'er thy servant dies.

I doubt

I doubt not but the LORD JESUS will say, *Amen*. Whether I shall have the pleasure of seeing you on this side eternity, is uncertain. It was no small self-denial for me to leave *America* without going to the *Northward*; but the cloud moved towards *England*. Here (O amazing condescension!) the glorious *Emmanuel* vouchsafes still to own and bless my feeble labours. In *Scotland*, *Wales*, and the parts in and near *Yorkshire*, we have seen blessed days of the Son of Man. I am now in my Winter quarters, longing for Spring, to take the field again. Had I a thousand tongues and lives, JESUS should have them all. I am sorry, quite sorry that not one of his ministers could venture over the *Atlantick* for *New-Jersey* College. Two general collections have lately been made upon other occasions in *Scotland*. What a pity, when all circumstances concurred, that such a favourable opportunity should have been lost? I can only lament that, which I did all I could to prevent. And now, honoured Sir, I must bid you farewel. Ere long I hope to see you in a better world: perhaps we may meet again in this. Dear *America* is much upon my heart. Thanks be to GOD, *Bethesda* is now put on a good and flourishing foundation, and I hear hath escaped the late hurricane in *South-Carolina*. Great are thy judgments, O GOD;—and great are thy mercies also! both past finding out. To the infinitely great and gracious I AM, do I most earnestly commend both you and yours, and with ten thousands thanks for all your unmerited favours, I beg leave to subscribe myself, honoured Sir,

Your Excellency's most obliged, dutiful,
and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLVIII.

To Captain G——.

My dear Captain, *London, Dec.* 20, 1752.

ONE would imagine, that you and I were never to meet any more on this side eternity. I often, often think of you, and long to see and converse with you; but GOD only knows when. We are now about to erect a *new Tabernacle* eighty foot square, which I fear will detain me in *England* the ensuing

enſuing Summer. Pen cannot well deſcribe, how white the fields have been, and how ready to harveſt, in *Wales*, *Scotland*, and the *North* of *England*. I could ſometimes ſcarce tell, whether I was in or out of the body. Grace! grace! I am now in Winter quarters, where our LORD gives us freſh conqueſts, gained by his word every day. We do not diſpute, but love. I find more and more that truth is great; and however ſeemingly cruſh'd for a while, will in the end prevail. But there muſt be a kind of death upon every promiſe, and upon every thing that is done for GOD. Thus hath it been with *Georgia* and *Bethesda*. O that we may learn to wait! Then ſhall we certainly ſee the ſalvation of GOD. I pity our dear friends in *Charles-Town*. O GOD, how great are thy judgments, as well as thy mercies! May they hear the rod, and who hath appointed it! My ſoul is diſtreſſed for them. May this ſevere correction make them truly great! When you ſend any thing to *Savannah*, I ſhould be obliged to you, if you would ſend a few things to *Bethesda*. Our LORD will bleſs you for it. I hope there are now above twenty negroes at work upon the new plantation. May the LORD JESUS convert them, and every other member of my family! And O that I may be converted myſelf more and more every day and hour! I am aſhamed of my being ſuch a dwarf in religion, and of my having ſo little of the mind of CHRIST. I hope you, my dear old friend, do find his grace ſufficient for you, to keep your heart above the world, and continually alive to GOD. My prayer for you is, that you may have power to get wealth, and grace to improve it for the Redeemer's glory, and his people's good: then you will be rich for both worlds, and GOD, even your own GOD, will give you and yours his bleſſing. Why do you not write to dear Mr. *S*——? He is a heavenly-minded man indeed, and my boſom friend. I ſuppoſe Mr. *D*—— will acquaint you of my having been at his houſe; we are kind friends ſtill: he and his very much regard you. What cannot GOD do? How faithful is he to thoſe, who "ſeek firſt his kingdom, and the righteouſneſs thereof." Let theſe words be written over your ſtore-houſe door; or rather let them be written on the table of your heart. I can add no more. A variety of buſineſs demands my attention. My dear man, farewel. Had I wings, I would fly

and

and see you, and my other never to be forgotten *Philadelphia* friends. Continue to pray, and perhaps I may yet come sooner than expectation. My wife joins in sending love to you and your household. Accept the same in the most endearing manner, from one that loves you more than a brother, even

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCXLIX.

To Mr. C—— W——.

My dear Friend, *London, Dec.* 22, 1752.

I Have read and pondered upon your kind letter with some degree of solemnity of spirit. In the same frame I would now sit down to answer it. And what shall I say? Really I can scarce tell. The connection between you and your brother, hath been so close and continued, and your attachment to him so necessary to keep up his interest, that I would not willingly for the world do or say any thing that may separate such friends. I cannot help thinking, but he is still jealous of me and my proceedings; but, I thank GOD, I am quite easy about it. Having the testimony of a good conscience, that I have a disinterested view to promote the common salvation only, I can leave all to him, who I am assured will in the end speak for me, and make my righteousness as clear as the light, and my just dealing as the noon-day. I more and more find, that he who believeth doth not make haste; and that if we will have patience, we shall find that every plant, which our heavenly Father hath not planted, however it may seem to have taken very deep root, shall be plucked up. As I wrote to good Lady *H———x*, so I write to you, dear Sir.—I bless GOD for my stripping seasons. I have seen an end of all perfection, and expect it only in him, where I am sure to find it, even in the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS. He knows how I love and honour you, and your brother, and how often I have preferred your interest to my own. This, by the grace of GOD, I shall still continue to do. My reward is with the LORD. If he approves, it is enough. More might be said, were we face to face. When this will be, I cannot tell. Several

things, especially our design of building a new tabernacle, which I hope will succeed, detain me in town this Winter. GOD only knows what course I am to steer in the Spring. I would be a blank;—let my heavenly Father fill it up as seemeth him good. I am glad you are with our elect Lady; she will shine indeed in heaven as a common friend. O how amiable is a truly catholic spirit! LORD, make us all partakers of it more and more! I beg the continuance of your prayers: I need them much. GOD willing, you shall have mine in return. That you and yours may increase with all the increase of GOD, is the earnest request of, my dear friend,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCL.

To Lady H——n.

Ever-honoured Madam, *London, Dec. 22, 1752.*

WITH great pleasure I received your Ladyship's letter, which hath drawn me to the Father of Spirits, that the meek, lowly, loving, zealous, and heavenly-minded temper which was in CHRIST JESUS, may be stamped more and more upon your Ladyship's heart. A growth in these blessed graces and fruits of the divine Spirit, I am persuaded is what your Ladyship desires above all things under heaven, and I doubt not but all the trials and afflictions you meet with, both from friends and foes, will be sanctified to the promoting this glorious end. Many of these I meet with; but if I come purified out of the furnace, and am at length any way conformed to my dear and blessed Exemplar, I rejoice, yea and will rejoice. Experience, if attended with this effect, cannot be bought too dear. But alas, how unwilling is the old man to be crucified and slain! How hard is even the mind that is renewed in part, how hard to be brought off low and selfish and party views. With how much reluctance doth it give up the uppermost place, and submit to be accounted in the church, as well as in the world, less than the least of all. Yet this is a lesson the witnesses of JESUS must learn. O that I had learnt only my A B C in it! I beg the continuance of your Ladyship's prayers, for which I thank your Ladyship a thousand times.

May the LORD of all lords return them seven-fold into your bosom, and give your Ladyship success in your endeavours to serve the persons mentioned in your last! It is but for your Ladyship to try. I shall observe your Ladyship's hints about Mr. ———. I believe our visits will not be very frequent.—But I am easy, having no scheme, no design of supplanting or resenting, but I trust a single eye to promote the common salvation, without so much as attempting to set up a party for myself. This is what my soul abhors. Being thus minded, I have peace; peace which the world knows nothing of, and which all must necessarily be strangers to, who are fond either of power or numbers. GOD be praised for the many strippings I have met with: it is good for me that I have been supplanted, despised, censured, maligned, judged by, and separated from my nearest, dearest friends. By this I have found the faithfulness of him, who is the friend of friends; by this I have been taught to wrap myself in the glorious *Emmanuel*'s everlasting righteousness, and to be content that He, to whom all hearts are open, and all desires are known, now sees, and will let all see hereafter, the uprightness of my intentions towards all mankind. But whither am I going? I run too fast. Your Ladyship's kind letter hath extorted this from me. I will weary your Ladyship no longer, but hasten to subscribe myself, what I really am, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged,
and very chearful servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLI.

To Mr. R——.

My very dear Friend, *London, Dec.* 22, 1752.

WITH great pleasure I received your kind and wished-for letter; and heartily bless GOD that your whole self is in such comfortable circumstances, and that honest *D——* is so blest in his work. I read his two letters about ten days ago, and many joined in singing for him the following verses:

The

The isles in the North,
Remember, O GOD,
And feed thy sheep there,
With pure gospel food.
LORD, *revive thy blest work*
In every place,
Till thousands and thousands
Do triumph through grace.

Do you not think the blessed JESUS will say, *Amen?* Yes, assuredly he will. And if he will work, who shall hinder?

Thoughts are vain against the LORD,
All subserve his mighty word;
Wheels encircling wheels shall run,
Each in course to bring it on.

Fear not, my dear Sir; if CHRIST hath work for you to do, he will put you into a proper station. But would you be a *Nehemiah*, and have no *Sanballat* to oppose you? Building the walls of the *New-Jerusalem*, is what the profane and formalists do not approve of. We must expect the serpent will hiss, whenever the gospel seed of the woman is coming into a place to bruise his head. Courage, my dear Sir, courage. GOD is on your side.

The world, with sin and Satan,
In vain our march oppose;
Through CHRIST *we shall*
Break through them all,
And sing the song of Moses.

You see, my dear Sir, how freely I write. The love of CHRIST constraineth me. I am much indebted to you, and hope to see you in *London* soon. My wife longs to have you under our roof: she hath been ill, but blessed be GOD is now better. We both send cordial and grateful respects to your whole self and all enquiring friends. We have had most solemn sacramental occasions. I sympathize with both our suffering friends: from what unexpected quarters do troubles come! Who would sing a requiem to himself, whilst here below?

LORD GOD, prepare us for whatever thou haſt prepared for us! I muſt bid you farewel. A variety of buſineſs obliges me to haſten to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLII.

To Lady H———m.

Honoured Madam, *London, Jan.* 1, 1753.

YOUR Ladyſhip's kind letter hath added to the obligations already laid on me. I can only ſay, the LORD knows that you and yours, are remembered by me before his throne. This is the reward, which the Redeemer promiſes to thoſe who do good to a diſciple, in the name of a diſciple. O happy they who are rich in faith and good works! Theſe are the true riches; they are durable; they follow us beyond the grave, and we ſhall be reaping the fruit of them through the endleſs ages of eternity. Eternity! eternity! The very writing or hearing this word, is enough to make one dead to the world, and alive unto GOD. The LORD quicken my tardy pace! I am now thirty-eight years of age, and entering upon another new year; Alas! alas! How little have I done for that JESUS, who hath done and ſuffered ſo much for me! I want to begin to begin to act and preach for GOD. Bleſſed be his name, that his ſpirit is moving on precious ſouls at *Briſtol.* For ever adored be his rich, free, and unmerited grace, the ſame may be ſaid of *London.* We have had bleſſed holidays, and I have had good news from the Orphan-houſe.

A life that all things caſts behind,
Springs forth obedient at his call.

Had I a thouſand lives, the LORD JESUS ſhould have them. I wiſh your Ladyſhip, and honoured daughters, much of his divine love ſhed abroad in your hearts. That is the beſt new year's compliment, and the beſt new year's gift. I hope, the young ladies through grace are kept unſpotted from the world. I would come and wait upon our elect Lady at *Clifton,* but am engaged in forwarding the building of a new tabernacle; I hope it will be accompliſhed, and that GOD's preſence

fence will fill it when erected. I could enlarge, but am called away, and therefore subscribe myself,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful, obliged, and ready servant for CHRIST's sake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLIII.

To Mr. L——.

London, Jan. 3, 1753.

My very dear Friend and Brother,

THOUGH I am very much straitened for time, yet I must sit down, (since you so earnestly desire it) and answer your kind letter. My love does not shift with my scene of action; I would have it in some degree, like my LORD's to me and his people, "Permanent and unchangeable." Blessed be GOD for such a JESUS, who is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. What can we want then? Or of whom should we be afraid? All his attributes are engaged to keep us on earth, and to set us upon thrones in his glorious kingdom in heaven. Last night I buried one, who I believe is seated there.—Ah lovely appearance of death! Surely my turn will come soon. I am now thirty-eight years of age; little did I think of staying in the land of the dying so long. Well, if it be to call more souls to the ever-loving, ever-lovely JESUS, Father, thy will be done!

If thou excuse, then work thy will,
By so unfit an instrument;
It will at once thy goodness show,
And prove thy power omnipotent.

I hope you have had a happy *Christmas* at *Leeds*. We have kept holidays here indeed. Sinners have been pricked to the heart, and saints refreshed in their spirits. To the Father of spirits be all the glory. I forgot none of you in my poor prayers: fear not; let us continue to pray, and we shall always find, that our extremity will be GOD's opportunity to help and appear for us. But there must be a seeming death upon every promise.

Where reaſon fails with all it's powers,
There faith prevails and love adores.

LORD, increaſe our faith.—LORD, quicken my ſluggiſh heart! I commend you and yours to GOD, and to the word of his grace. I am ſorry dear Mr. *S*—— is diſabled from writing. When his hand is well, I hope to hear from him. In the mean while, tell him, and his, and all dear friends, that I am, for CHRIST's ſake, my dear Sir,

Theirs and yours, &c. &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLIV.

To Mr. C——.

My dear Mr. C——, *London, Jan. 7, 1753.*

I Received your kind letter, for which I ſend you moſt hearty thanks. I ſee that you ſtrive, and I fear you will ſucceed, to outdo me in love and kindneſs. However, I will endeavour to copy after you, and, if poſſible, not die in your debt. But who can ever pay his debt of love, either to GOD, or the brethren? Alas! Alas! I run in arrears every day. GOD's favours are continually multiplied upon me, and he ſeems to let us know that we ſhall ſee greater things than ever. We have had a bleſſed *Chriſtmas* ſeaſon. I truſt our LORD hath imparted many a new year's gift. You know what that is, even a *new heart.* "A new heart alſo will I give thee." Thus run the words of our LORD's laſt will and teſtament. O for faith to prove this will! O for a willingneſs to receive ſo invaluable a legacy! LORD, I believe, help my unbelief!

Thou wilt give ſtrength, thou wilt give power,
Thou wilt in time ſet free;
This great deliverance let us hope,
Not for ourſelves but thee.

Come, my dear brother, let us take courage: "He is faithful, who hath promiſed, who alſo will do it."

O unbelief, injurious bar,
Source of tormenting, fruitleſs care.

Surely it is the womb of miſery, and grave of comfort. Had we faith but as a grain of muſtard ſeed, how ſhould we trample

ple the world, the flesh, the devil, death, and hell under foot? LORD, increase our faith! I know you say *Amen.* "Even so LORD JESUS, Amen and Amen!" But whither am I going? Love makes me forget myself. Adieu—my dear Sir, adieu. Pray tell Mr. *G*—— that I intend answering his kind letter shortly. I send cordial love to him, and all the followers of the Lamb.

O may we find the ancient way,
Our wond'ring foes to move;
And force the heathen world to say,
See how these christians love!

I can now no more, but subscribe myself, dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLV.

To Mr. H—— B——.

My very dear Friend, *London, Jan. 7, 1753.*

BY this conveyance I send you a power of attorney to dispose of *Providence Plantation*, and leave it to your discretion to sell at what price you please. I would only observe, that I had rather it should be sold for somewhat less than its real value, than to keep it any longer in my hands. I do not choose to keep two families longer than needs must. Be pleased to pay what you receive for it, into the hands of Mr. *Charles H——n* of *Charles-Town.* Blessed be GOD for remembering mercy in the midst of judgments. O that with his rod he may also send his spirit! For without it, as dear Mr. *V——B——* observes, "We shall be chastened, but not changed." The world after the deluge, was as bad as before. Nothing but the blood of JESUS CHRIST, applied by faith, can cleanse the soul from sin.—

To this blest fountain of thy blood,
Incarnate GOD *I fly;*
Here let me wash my spotted soul,
From sins of deepest dye.

My dear Sir, add to my obligations, by praying, that the foot of pride may never come against me. This is what

turned fair angels into foul devils; and yet alas, how prone are we to it! Surely it is the firſt enemy we fight with, and the laſt that is totally conquered. O that I was humble! then would the LORD delight to own and honour me more and more. I am amazed he doth not throw me aſide. But (O unchangeable love!) ſtill he cauſeth my rod to bud and bloſſom. The Winter ſeaſon hath been very bleſſed, and we hear daily of freſh inroads made into Satan's kingdom. GOD ſeems determined to throw down *Jericho*'s walls by rams-horns, yea by very crooked rams-horns. Even ſo, Father, for ſo it ſeemeth good in thy ſight! My dear Sir, once more I intreat you to pray for me. Neither you nor yours are forgotten by me. The money you receive for *Providence*, will be immediately wanted to buy more land, and to pay for opening *Betheſda*'s new plantation.—I have deſired your brother to agree with Mrs. *P*—— for hers, if ſhe can give a good title. I am ſorry to hear ſhe is declining.—But why ſo? Is not death an entrance into life everlaſting?

There ſin and pain and ſorrow ceaſe,
And all is calm and joy and peace.

Hearty love and prayers attend her and all enquiring friends. That this new year may be filled with millions of new bleſſings, both to your ſouls and bodies, is and ſhall be the conſtant prayer of, very dear Sir,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLVI.

To Mr. S——.

My dear Mr. S——, *London, Jan. 9, 1753.*

I Received your kind letter yeſterday, and ſuppoſe, ere this can reach you, my laſt will be come to hand. What ſay you? If I ſhould be detained in *England* this year, are you willing to put your life in the Redeemer's hands and go immediately? A ſhip is bound for *Savannah* about ten miles from the Orphan-houſe, the beginning of next month. Methinks I hear you ſay to the glorious *Emmanuel*,

A life that all things caſts behind,
Springs forth obedient at thy call.

Such

Such a ſpirit is fit for *Betheſda*; ſuch a ſpirit becomes one who deſires to be a teacher of youth, and a faithful miniſter of the ever-loving ever lovely JESUS. Let me know your mind. If you come immediately, may the LORD come and go with you! That is company enough.—But there are others going in the ſame ſhip. The LORD direct and bleſs you! He will vouchſafe to countenance my feeble labours. I have yet more good news from the North. Laſt night was an awful night, we carried three ſaints together to the grave; thouſands attended, and both within and without doors, the word I truſt came with power. O that the dead may be made to hear the voice of the Son of GOD, and to come forth! I rejoice if any of his dear people have been quickened at *Glaſgow*. Perhaps next Summer, I may ſee them in my way to, or return from *Ireland*. The LORD help all to pray for me. "Leſs than the leaſt of all," ſhall be ſtill my motto. To me nothing belongs, but ſhame and confuſion of face. I muſt away. The LORD direct and bleſs you. I commend you to his never-failing mercy, and am

Your aſſured friend for CHRIST's ſake,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCLVII.

To Mr. Z———.

London, Jan. 10, 1753.

Honoured and very dear Sir,

THIS morning, before I received your kind packet, I was finiſhing my anſwer to the good Profeſſor, and then intended to ſend it to you with the incloſed extracts. LORD, what am I, that any of thy faithful ſervants ſhould write to, or concern themſelves about me or my affairs! With all thy other favours, give me, O GOD, an humble and grateful heart; ſo ſhall thy mercies not prove my ruin! I hope to anſwer good Mr. *U*—— and dear Mr. *B*——*s* ſpeedily. A ſhip goes to *Savannah* the begining of next month. Mrs. *V*—— *B*—— is ſafely delivered of a daughter; the forts being deſtroyed by the late dreadful hurricane, the Governor and Council of *South-Carolina*, have ſent for her huſband to *Charles-Town*. Bleſſed be GOD, *Betheſda* hath received but little damage. Several of the orphans have ſent me pretty

letters, and I truſt it will yet prove an uſeful ſeminary for both white and black perſons. I wait to ſee this great ſalvation, O LORD! To-morrow, GOD willing, I ſhall dine with Mr. *L*——, and on *Friday* morning if poſſible will endeavour to wait upon you. My hands are full of work, and I hear every day of freſh perſons awakened; but I can do ſo little, and what I do is done ſo badly, that I fear ſometimes my LORD will throw me aſide like a broken veſſel.—Very dear and honoured Sir, for CHRIST's ſake do you and your worthy collegue continue to pray for me; ſurely it is an act of the greateſt charity. Leſs than the leaſt of all, ſhall be my motto ſtill. My heart is full; GOD forgive me. I am now beginning to enter upon my thirty-ninth year. LORD JESUS quicken my tardy pace! I can no more. But hoping to ſee you on *Friday*, and to be furthered in my work and way by your fatherly counſel and inſtruction, I ſubſcribe myſelf, very dear and honoured Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, obliged ſon, and
ready ſervant in our glorious Head,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLVIII.

To Lady H——n.

London, Jan. 13, 1753.

Ever-honoured Madam,

YOUR Ladyſhip's very kind and chriſtian letter, I have read over and over again. It drew my heart towards the Redeemer, and cauſed me to pray, that your preſent retirement, may be a glorious preparative for further, and yet more public uſefulneſs in his myſtical body. To have one's hands or tongue tied from acting or ſpeaking for GOD, is, to a new and heaven-born ſoul, one of the greateſt pieces of ſelf-denial in the world. But this hath been the lot of many of the moſt choice and holy ſouls under heaven. It is a mercy, that where there is a willing mind, it is accepted according to that which a man hath, and not according to that which he hath not. I beg that your Ladyſhip would not have the leaſt thought about my concerns, otherwiſe than at a throne of grace. Your Ladyſhip wants a bridle, rather than a ſpur. My higheſt ambition is to ſpend and be ſpent for JESUS, and

to

to be not the head, but ſervant of all. When your Ladyſhip mentioned the word *ambition*, I could not help thinking of the ſaying of the *Eunuch*, "Speaketh the prophet this of himſelf, or of ſome other man?" But we know not what is in our hearts. LORD, keep me from being led into, and falling, by temptation. I wiſh your Ladyſhip much ſucceſs with *B*——, but worldly wiſe men, ſerpent-like, ſo turn and wind, that they have many ways to ſlip through and creep out at, which ſimple-hearted ſingle-eyed ſouls know nothing of, and if they did, could not follow after them. Honeſty is the beſt policy, and will in the end (whether we ſeek it or not) get the better of all. Your Ladyſhip's intended letter to Governor *B*——, will be very acceptable. I hope the incloſed will give your Ladyſhip pleaſure. O that I may be enabled to give the LORD JESUS all the glory! To me nought belongs, but confuſion of face. Surely I am the chief of ſinners, leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints, but for CHRIST's ſake, ever-honoured Madam,

Your Ladyſhip's moſt dutiful, obliged
and very ready ſervant,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCXLIX.

To Mr. C——.

My dear Mr. C——, *London, Jan.* 15, 1753.

I Owe you a letter and much love. The one I will now pay you, the other debt our common common LORD muſt diſcharge. I deſpair of doing it, becauſe I run upon freſh arrears to him and his dear people every day and every hour. I willingly therefore own myſelf a debtor to high and low, rich and poor, to all, of all denominations whatſoever.—What have we to do with a party or ſectarian zeal? Why ſhould not our heaven begin on earth?

All that we know they do above,
Is, that they ſing, and that they love.

O for ſome freſh anointings of the bleſſed ſpirit! Then will the ſcales fall more and more from our eyes, and the veil of ignorance be taken more and more from our hearts. Then

ſhall

ſhall we be more and more content to think, and let think, and be ſtudious to be of one heart, where we cannot be of one judgment or mind. The ſweetneſs of ſuch a ſpirit, is unſpeakable; it brings with it its own reward; it frees the ſoul from a thouſand needleſs jealouſies, and ſelfiſh paſſions, and enables it to put the reins of government into his hands, who alone orders all things well. LORD, increaſe in us this ſpirit, and give us more and more to love all that bear thy image, though they may not in all things agree with us!

O may we find the ancient way,
Our wond'ring foes to move;
And force the heathen world to ſay,
See how theſe chriſtians love!

My dear brother, your kind letter conſtrains me to write thus. —Bleſſed be GOD for what has been done at any time, by any inſtrument, at *Newcaſtle*. I ſtill pray that the town may be full of new creatures. In *London* we have reaſon to rejoice. Yeſterday was a great day of the Son of man; both at the ſacrament, and under the word preached, our LORD gave us to drink of the wine of the kingdom. On *Monday* laſt we followed three believers to the grave, and triumphed over death on his own ground. O what a CHRIST have we! GOD help us to love him more, and ſerve him better! I ſalute all moſt heartily with whom you are in fellowſhip.—Grace, mercy and peace be multiplied upon you. I beg a continued intereſt in all your prayers, and ſubſcribe myſelf, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend,
and ready ſervant for CHRIST's ſake,
G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLX.

To C—— W——.

My dear Friend, *Chatham, Jan.* 19, 1753.

A Multiplicity of buſineſs prevented my anſwering your kind letter, before my coming out of *London*. Leſt I ſhould be prevented by the ſame means at my return thither, I write you a few lines in the way. I have been among ſome new-awakened ſouls, who ſeem to be taking the kingdom of GOD

GOD by a holy violence. At *London*, GOD hath lately caused his people's cups to run over with strong consolation, and many sturdy sinners have been made to cry out, "What shall we do to be saved?" I thank you for the caution about the new building; a burnt child dreads the fire. I shall not begin, till we have a thousand pounds in hand, and then shall contract for a certain sum for the whole. This affair will detain me till the days are long enough to travel, and set out upon a fresh pursuit after poor sinners, who have wandered from their GOD.—The LORD be with you and yours. May the gospel plough be prospered, whatever hand is employed to lay hold of it. This, as far as I know my treacherous heart, is the sincere language of, dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLXI.

To Mr. O——.

London, Jan. 23, 1753.

My dear Mr. O———,

I Received your kind letter, and have since shewn it to the secretary for *Georgia*, who approved of it very much. I am glad we are to have you in that infant province, and could heartily wish you was nearer *Bethesda*. I doubt not of its becoming a seat of learning in time, but it is good for every thing to rise gradually. I have engaged a dear youth, who I trust will suit the Orphan-house infant state very well. It hath scarce learnt as yet to stand upon its own legs; as it grows I expect it will give me more trouble. To have young men educated there, and then turned out into the church graceless and unconverted would break my heart. Father, if it be thy will, let this cup pass from me! I suppose we shall now soon know, who is to be Governor; every thing is to be ordered as I informed you in my last. My eyes are waiting upon Him, from whom alone cometh all our salvation. We see wonders every day on this side the water. Glorious days of the Son of man indeed! Notwithstanding, I long to take another trip to yonder new world. Time will determine, wherefore this attraction. He that believeth doth not make haste. GOD forbid that "Chastened, but

but not changed," ſhould always be *Charles-Town* motto. LORD, let them hear thy rod, and who hath appointed it! What a dreadful thing is it to come cankered out of the furnace? It beſpeaks further trials yet behind;—but I need not tell you this.—Excuſe this freedom: be pleaſed to give my hearty love to all, and I beſeech you continue to pray for, my dear friend and brother,

Yours moſt affectionately in our common LORD,

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLXII.

To Mr. V—— B——.

My very dear Sir, *London, Jan.* 19, 1753.

A Few days ago I was with good Mr. Z——, who aſſured me that Mr. *V*—— had written him, that two hundred pounds ſterling were ordered you to be diſpoſed of as you ſhould judge proper. I hope you will find this to be true, if you have not found it ſo already. Is there no way of making the breach up between you and Mr. *B*——? Mr. *U*——*r*, from whom I heard very lately, and alſo all your *German* friends, deſire it extremely. I promiſed Mr. Z—— that I would uſe my intereſt for your own ſake, but above all for the ſake of JESUS CHRIST our common LORD. My very dear Sir, do forgive and forget, and if you are conſcious you have been too haſty in any reſpect, pray ſend to Mr. *B*—— a few lines of love. We never loſe any thing by ſtooping.—GOD will always exalt the humble ſoul. O that the prince of peace would honour me to be a peace-maker!—Do, my dear friend, comply with my requeſt, and thereby give further proofs that you are indeed converted, and become a little child. May this bleſſing deſcend on your new-born babe! Our joint reſpects await Mrs. *V*—— and yourſelf. You may well wiſh yourſelf at the tabernacle. All is alive there.—Thouſands flock to hear, and thouſands feel the power of the living GOD.—Dear *Charles-Town*, I pity thee! O that thou kneweſt the day of thy viſitation! If this meets you there employed as an engineer, may the LORD own, bleſs and direct you, and keep you unſpotted from the world! If elſewhere, I hope you are where GOD would have you be,

and

and that is enough,—I commend you to his never-failing mercy, and desiring a continued interest in your prayers, beg leave to subscribe myself, very dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLXIII.

To the Reverend Mr. H——.

My very dear Friend, *London, Jan. 27, 1753.*

I Thank you a thousand times for the trouble you have been at, in revising my poor compositions, which I am afraid you have not treated with a becoming severity. How many pardons shall I ask for mangling, and I fear murdering your dear *Theron* and *Aspasia?* You will see by *Monday*'s coach; which will bring a parcel directed for you, to the care of Doctor *S*——. It contains one of your dialogues, and two more of my sermons, which I do not like very well myself, and therefore shall not wonder if you dislike them. If you think they will do for the public, pray return them immediately, because the other two go to the press next *Monday.* I have nothing to comfort me but this, "that the LORD chooses the weak things of this world to confound the strong, and things that are not, to bring to nought the things that are." I think to sell all four sermons for six-pence. I write for the poor, you for the polite and the noble; GOD will assuredly own and bless what you write.—As yet I have only had time to peruse one of your sweet dialogues; as fast as possible I shall read the rest. I am more than paid for my trouble by reading them. The LORD be with your dear heart! Continue to pray for me. The LORD be with us. Grace! Grace! I am, dearest Sir, in very great haste, but greater love,

Yours, &c.

G. W.

LETTER DCCCCLXIV.

To the Reverend Mr. B——.

Reverend and very dear Sir, *London, Jan. 31, 1753.*

YOUR kind letter came safe to hand, and according to your desire, I send you a little bell, as a small token of my unfeigned love to your dear congregation. I have written

ſtrongly to Profeſſor *Frank* for ſome Negroes for you, and heartily pray the LORD of all Lords to put it into our power to ſerve that black generation. Their ſouls are equally precious in the eyes of an all gracious Redeemer, as ours. O that we may yet ſee ſome good come out of *Georgia*. I would take another trip over this ſpring, but am hindered by our building a new place of worſhip, and by the continual calls that are given me to preach the everlaſting goſpel.—Indeed we ſee moſt glorious days of the Son of man. The cup of GOD's people is made to run over, and every day we hear of ſomebody or another brought under new awakenings, and pricked to the heart; notwithſtanding this, I find a continual attraction to *America*. The event will prove wherefore all this happens to me. LORD help me to walk by faith and not by ſight! My dear Sir, you and yours will not forget to pray for me. I am the chief of ſinners, and leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints.—What ſhall I render unto the LORD? Write every opportunity. Dear Mr. Z—— will take care of your child. Cannot matters be made up between you and Mr. *V*——? Is it not a pity that any of us ſhould fall out in our way to heaven? When we meet next, remember that a floor and blanket is all the lodging, and a chick or fowl, boiled or roaſted, is all the food I deſire at *Ebenezer*. What is a pilgrim life without a pilgrim heart? O that I was like my LORD! Then ſhould I endure hardneſs, like a good ſoldier of JESUS CHRIST.—The encouragement for raiſing ſilk will be continued. O that *Georgia* may prove a fruitful ſoil for raiſing children unto *Abraham!* We wait for thy ſalvation, O LORD. For the preſent, reverend Sir, adieu. My wife joins in ſending cordial ſalutations to your whole ſelf, to Mr. *L*—— and his wife, and all the dear people at *Ebenezer*. That you all may at all times have reaſon to ſay, "hitherto hath our LORD helped us," is the earneſt prayer of, reverend and very dear Sir,

Your moſt affectionate, though unworthy younger brother, and fellow-labourer in our common LORD,

G. W.

The END of the SECOND VOLUME.

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